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2 JULY 1982

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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1684

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2 July 1982

USSR REPORT MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1684

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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

LECTURE COMMENTARY ON WORLD MILITARY-POLITICAL SITUATION

Moscow AGITATOR ARMII I FLOTA in Russian No 7, Apr 82 (signed to press 29 Mar 82) pp 24-27

[Article by Col A. Danilov: "For Political Study Group Students and Assistant Instructors: Keep Your Powder Dry!";* passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] Soviet citizens are working with inspiration to implement resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress. The peoples of our country are heading toward the grand jubilee--the 60th anniversary of the USSR's foundation--as a great multinational family rallied closely about the native Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee.

Our valorous Armed Forces, rich in grand combat traditions, are standing vigilantly and watchfully on guard over the peaceful creative labor of the friendly family of USSR nations. Today's defenders of the great Land of Soviets are honorably continuing the cause of their fathers and grandfathers--those who created the first socialist state in the world and who selflessly defended the honor and independence of the homeland in the fiery war years.

A cult of violence and a spirit of militarism are organically alien to Soviet citizens. Their ideal and most desired goal is a world without war and the fraternal friendship of all nations on earth. Under conditions where the stormclouds gathered on the international horizon in the early 1980's, the Soviet Union is persistently continuing the struggle to eliminate the threat of war and to preserve and deepen detente. It is developing in practical work a mutually advantageous cooperation with the majority of countries in the world. Meanwhile, as noted at the 26th congress, the party and state have not lost sight for a single day of the issues of strengthening the defensive might of the country and its Armed Forces. The international situation and sharp increase in aggressiveness of the politics of imperialism, and American imperialism above all, obligated us to do this.

*This article is recommended for use in preparing for political studies of the topic /"The present-day military-political situation. Tasks of military personnel for raising vigilance and for exemplary performance of operational readiness and of guard, duty and watch services."/

A struggle about one of the fundamental issues of today's world politics--the issue of war and peace--has assumed a special acuteness under present-day conditions. Events again and again confirm the truth that socialism and peace are indivisible, and that war or the threat of war are constant companions of capitalism.

Having achieved a sharp turn in the politics of the United States and NATO at the dawn of the 1980's, and especially after a change of leadership in Washington, the bosses of the capitalist world began to orient themselves on force and only on force in international relations. U.S. state figures openly declare the possibility both of global and of "limited" nuclear war. Large parts of the world thousands of kilometers away from the United States have been declared a sphere of their "vital interests." The present American administration and its militant partners from a number of other NATO countries have taken it into their heads to disrupt the existing military-strategic balance between the USSR and United States and between the Warsaw Pact Organization and the North Atlantic bloc of NATO.

Imperialist circles unfolded a false propaganda campaign about the "Soviet military threat" to the West in order to justify somehow their unprecedented military preparations in the eyes of the world at large. A special place is given to a pamphlet published by the Pentagon entitled "Soviet Military Might" within the framework of this slanderous campaign, which was joined by leading political and military figures of the American administration. The pamphlet was aimed openly at placing responsibility on the USSR for aggravation of the international situation in the 1980's, to frighten the public, particularly in western countries, with the USSR's military potential, and convince it of the need to take up a further unwinding of the arms race and a build-up of U.S. and NATO military might.

With regard to the Soviet Union, it merely reacted to those threats created by the West in building up its own Armed Forces. The USSR never has strived for military superiority, restricting itself to measures sufficient for assuring reliable security--its own and that of its allies. The intention of the U.S. government and its NATO allies to station some 600 new American missiles in Europe capable of hitting targets on USSR territory presents a special danger to the cause of peace. /"This would force us,"/ emphasized Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in a speech at the 17th USSR Trade Union Congress, /"to take such steps in response which would place the other side in a similar position, directly including the United States and its territory. This should not be forgotten."/

U.S. ruling circles have set the goal of changing the relative strength in the world arena in their own favor no matter what and achieving military superiority over the USSR in the next few years. No matter how absurd this task is, inasmuch as the Soviet Union will not permit the other side to achieve perceptible superiority, this does not make it less dangerous. To the contrary, the new stage in the arms race undertaken by the United States will undermine international stability and greatly increase the danger that a war will break out.

Washington actually is doing everything to disrupt detente. A course has been set for achieving domination over other countries and peoples, imposing its will on them, and providing for economic exploitation and military-strategic use of their territories. Beijing's politics also adjoin the aggressive politics of imperialism. Strengthened by the militarization of their country, the impudent territorial claims and the desire to shove the world into the abyss of a new war, the Chinese hegemonists also are attempting to cloak themselves in the flag of "protection" against the mythical "Soviet threat."

Military force and violence always have played a dominant role in U.S. history. In the two centuries of its existence more than 200 wars and colonial campaigns have been unleashed. In the period from 1946 through 1975 the United States resorted to use of armed forces directly or indirectly and threatened other states 215 times. The question of employing nuclear weapons was placed on the agenda in Washington 19 times, with the threat addressed directly at the USSR in four instances. The United States has been the initiator or participant in a majority of military conflicts since 1945. More than ten million persons died in these conflicts, where imperialist forces were the guilty parties. Even at the present time the presence of aggressive U.S. forces invariably is discovered everywhere, no matter in what part of the planet the so-called "hotspots" are located.

The abrupt increase in aggressiveness of the politics of imperialism, and American imperialism above all, demands a further increase in vigilance and combat readiness of Soviet military personnel.

Combat readiness! In the soldier's awareness this concept acquires visible outlines in the very first classes where commanders and political workers tell him that today young soldiers of the 1980's are entrusted with the honorable right to join the formation of defenders of the socialist homeland. Combat readiness is a special condition of a soldier and of his feelings and thoughts. The assembly or quarters signal cannot come as a surprise to the soldier or sailor. He lives every day and every hour with concern and responsibility for the fate of the beloved Motherland and its future, and lives in constant readiness to give a rebuff to the black forces should they unleash aggression against the Land of Soviets and countries of the socialist community.

Combat readiness... This is vigilance and composure always. Remember the words of our leader V. I. Lenin: "Whoever forgets about the danger constantly threatening us and which will not cease so long as world imperialism exists, whoever forgets this forgets about our labor republic."

...A field fire exercise was under way in a guards motorized rifle regiment. It was a difficult, unusual exercise. The first echelon infantry fighting vehicles followed right after the tanks and artillery shellbursts, which in itself causes no small amount of psychological stress. The fact was that in these strenuous moments the motorized riflemen had to conduct fire duels with the "enemy," anticipate the opposing side in firing, and hit targets at maximum ranges. In addition, the practice combat occurred in freezing temperatures and the range abounded in numerous crafty traps covered by snow. In short, conditions in this exercise approximated frontline conditions to the maximum without any allowances.

Nevertheless the soldiers withstood the test. There was no one who would waver or shirk difficulties. Isn't this an indicator of the high level of combat readiness of unit personnel?

Well then, what are these components of combat readiness? It is the profound communist conviction of every soldier and his utter dedication to the party cause and people. It is firm military discipline. It is high military proficiency and strong physical conditioning. Combat readiness is inconceivable without equipment and weapons maintained in a serviceable condition and without each specialist's detailed knowledge and confident mastery of them. Combat readiness is defined by the level of military and special training of command cadres and their capability of skillful command and control. But no matter how bold and tactically competent a commander may be he will not win the fight if his subordinates are uncontrollable. It is not difficult to notice from what has been said that combat readiness is a complex, capacious concept where all elements are interconnected, interdependent and indivisible.

/CPSU CC Politburo Member, USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov emphasizes that combat readiness is an alloy of the troops' technical outfitting, military schooling, moral-political, psychological and physical conditioning, and the state of organization and readiness of every Soviet soldier for an exploit in order to perform his military duty to the Motherland./

Firm, conscientious military discipline permeating the entire Army from top to bottom is a most important factor of combat readiness. Vladimir Il'ich Lenin called on us to fulfill all laws on the Red Army and all orders not out of fear but out of conscience and to maintain discipline in it in every way. Military regulations are the chief textbook for every soldier and sailor. They set forth in a concentrated form the party and government demands on armed defenders of the homeland. They have absorbed the entire experience of battles and engagements.

A soldier only becomes a soldier when he fully masters the discipline of combat and operational readiness and when he realizes with his mind, heart and his entire being that he is like a cartridge in the clip. With today's crew-served weapons any deviation from the norm or command carried out imprecisely may stop or delay the launch of a missile or place the combat vehicle or the entire subunit under an enemy attack.

Targets appeared in one field fire exercise of a tank battalion. Concerted fire was opened up on them. For some reason just one tank gun was silent. When the signal to cease fire was given it suddenly blazed out with a round. This was the crudest violation of safety precautions. The reason was learned. It turned out that there had been a delay in firing because the rounds had grease on them. Neither tank commander Jr Sgt V. Mironov, nor gunner Pvt K. Tokayev nor the loader had concerned themselves with preparation of ammunition. It is not difficult to imagine the consequences of such lack of discipline in actual combat.

The entire tenor of Army life instils combat readiness in the soldier. This is manifested in particular in the performance of operational readiness and

of guard and duty-watch services. Performance of these duties is equated to the performance of a combat mission in peacetime. Soldiers who perform operational readiness actually comprise the first echelon called upon to do battle with the enemy at any minute. It is important that every soldier or sailor who goes on operational readiness or watch have a detailed understanding of the state importance of missions facing him and of his own personal responsibility for faultless performance of duties, and that he be constantly ready for resolute actions in a combat situation.

...The metallurgist receives the cast in the open-hearth furnace, the machine operator sits down at the controls of a tractor, the scientist ponders the results of a new experiment, and young boys and girls fill the auditoriums of institutes and universities each day. All of them are calm at their work since they have faith that the Soviet Armed Forces, steeped in the glory of victories, always stand vigilantly and watchfully in combat readiness on guard over the beloved homeland.

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ARMED FORCES DAY: MATERIAL FOR TALKS, REPORTS

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 1, Jan 82 (signed to press 22 Dec 81) pp 38-44

[Unattributed article: "Reliable Guardian of the Homeland: Materials for Reports and Discussions on the 64th Anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy"]

[Text] Soviet Army and Navy Day is celebrated in this country as a national holiday, and not only because somebody in every family has in the past stood or is now standing in the ranks of defenders of the homeland. The Soviet Armed Forces are the pride and glory of our working-man people, our hero-people. This is the most reliable guarantee of the nation's security, implementation of the plans of building communism, and a bastion of peace and freedom throughout the world.

The 64th anniversary of the army and navy coincides in time with the first anniversary of the convening of the 26th CPSU Congress. The Soviet people and their fighting men are carrying out with great enthusiasm the responsible tasks advanced at the congress. A new influx of political and labor activeness was evoked by the decisions of the November (1981) CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the 6th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet. As Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stressed in his speech at the Plenum, the new five-year plan "should become and will become a glorious landmark on the road of historic accomplishments of the Soviet people. There is no doubt whatsoever that our country's working people will apply their resources and energy, innovativeness and initiative to achieve more and more new successes along this road."

* * *

The Great October Socialist Revolution -- the main event of the 20th century -- announced the birth of the world's first worker and peasant state -- Soviet Russia, a state whose first decree was the Peace Decree. From that time up to the present day, when the Peace Program for the 1980's, elaborated at the 26th CPSU Congress, is being sequentially and persistently implemented, the campaign for peace is a state policy of our socialist homeland.

Immediately following the victorious October Revolution, just as V. I. Lenin foresaw, the Soviet Nation was attacked by the united forces of international imperialism and domestic counterrevolution, which initiated an armed intervention and civil war for the purpose of strangling Soviet rule. A mortal danger

hung over the young republic. In order to defend its revolutionary achievements and repel imperialist aggression, the proletariat needed a rigorously disciplined, regular army. Such an army was created by the will of the party and the will of the great leader of the revolution, V. I. Lenin.

V. I. Lenin elaborated the question of the armed forces of the proletarian state and formulated the scientific principles of their organization and development. He showed that the Red Army is an army of a new type. In contrast to the armies of imperialist nations, which constitute the armed support of exploiter classes and an instrument of enslavement of their own peoples and the peoples of other countries, the Red Army is an army designated for a just cause -- defense of the revolutionary achievements of the worker class and the entire working people. And it remained so today.

Formation of the first regular units began on the basis of Lenin's decrees on organization of the Workers' and Peasants' Red Army and the Workers' and Peasants' Red Navy, signed on 28 January and 11 February 1918. Red Guardsmen, worker and peasant volunteers, revolutionary soldiers and sailors of the old army and navy formed the backbone of the new army. Its detachments and regiments immediately proceeded to the fronts and engaged the enemy in a resolute struggle, staunchly defending the power of the Soviets. "The week of 18-24 February 1918," wrote V. I. Lenin, "will go down as one of the greatest historical turning points in the history of the Russian -- and international -- revolution" ("Poln. Sobr. Soch." [Complete Works], Vol 35, page 393).

The days of mobilization of the revolutionary forces of the people and the heroic defense of the achievements of the October Socialist Revolution against invasion by the hordes of German imperialism were days of the birth of the Red Army. In memory of this great feat, every year 23 February is celebrated in the Soviet Union as Soviet Army and Navy Day.

The sons of all the peoples of our great homeland fought shoulder to shoulder under the crimson banners of the Red Army, in fierce battles with White Guardists and foreign interventionists, fighting which lasted more than 3 years, in this country's central regions, on the steppes of the Ukraine and the Volga, on the Don and the Kuban', by the White Sea and in the mountains of the Caucasus, in the sands of Central Asia and in the distant Amur region. They marched into battle together for peace, bread and land, for the power of the Soviets. Thanks to their selfless courage, the Red Army and Navy repelled numerous united campaigns by the imperialist aggressors and White Guard hordes, and defended the achievements of the Great October Revolution. They emerged victorious because they were waging a just war of liberation, supported by a firm alliance of the worker class and peasantry, the friendship of peoples, and the international solidarity of working people abroad. A decisive condition for the victory of the Red Army and Navy was the leadership of the Communist Party, which functioned as a fighting party, which fought together with the masses and at their head. "Only because of this," noted V. I. Lenin, "in spite of the double, triple, and quadruple campaign by the imperialists of the Entente and the imperialists of the entire world, were we able to win" ("Poln. Sobr. Soch.," Vol 40, page 240).

The magnificent qualities of the Soviet military organization, a high degree of discipline and organization, and the mass heroism of the socialist army were demonstrated in difficult military ordeals. A pleiad of talented military leaders and political workers developed in the crucible of civil war -- such as S. M. Budenny, K. Ye. Voroshilov, S. M. Kirov, V. V. Kuybyshev, I. V. Stalin, M. N. Tukhachevskiy, M. V. Frunze, and many others. The foundations of Soviet military science and art of warfare were laid down and the fighting traditions of the Soviet Armed Forces were born during these difficult years.

* * *

Having repulsed the first invasion by imperialism, the Soviet Nation proceeded with peacetime construction. This was being carried out in a difficult international situation. Having suffered defeat in the war against Soviet Russia, the governments of the United States, Great Britain, France, Japan and the other capitalist nations were nurturing sinister plans of economic strangulation of the new societal system and were waiting for the right moment to resume armed intervention. The Communist Party was aware of the constant threat by world imperialism. It elaborated a scientifically substantiated policy in the military area for the entire period of building socialism and was unswervingly implementing it.

The close political, military, and economic alliance of all the existing Soviet republics, which had been established in the first post-October years, following the civil war became for the worker masses a symbol, as it were, of the joint struggle for a new life. The worker class and working people of all nationalities desired a strengthening of this alliance and saw in the formation of a unified multinational socialist base that force which would enable them in the shortest possible time to overcome the physical devastation and backwardness, to restore production, which had been undermined by the wars, and also to preserve the independence of the homeland, which was encircled by militarily strong capitalist countries.

Thanks to the party's organizing role and its wise nationalities policy, such a state was born on 30 December 1922. This day is a great, historic date in the life of our nation, an important landmark in the destiny of all the Soviet peoples, their great holiday, the 60th anniversary of which will be celebrated this year by our multinational state. "Unification of all the peoples of this country into a single union," stated Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "the creation of a unified multinational socialist state opened up unprecedented opportunities of social, economic and cultural progress for our homeland." This also greatly increased the capabilities of its armed defense and increased our country's capability to hold out and to emerge victorious in struggle against any imperialist aggressor.

Surrounded by the concern of the party and the entire Soviet people, the Red Army was improving year by year. The necessity of strengthening its combat power was dictated by the entire international situation. The economic crisis of 1929-1933 revealed all the basic conflicts of capitalism, intensified the unevenness of development of the capitalist nations, aggravated their struggle for markets and spheres of influence, and led to intensification of reaction and

stepped-up military preparations. Two focal points of war were formed. The first developed in the Far East in 1931, when militarist Japan initiated aggressive actions against China. The second, principal focal area developed in the center of Europe, when at the beginning of 1933 the monopolies in Germany put the fascists in power.

Our party's Central Committee and the Soviet Government saw the dangerous development of the international situation and were working on resolving problems of building socialism and strengthening our country's defense in an organic unity. Thanks to the selfless labor of the worker class, a powerful defense industry was created. During the years of the Second Five-Year Plan alone its gross output almost tripled. The aircraft industry and tank industry were developing at an accelerated pace, with productive capacity by the summer of 1941 at 50 percent greater than that of the aircraft and tank plants of fascist Germany. New models of combat equipment were developed. Technical reequipping of military forces was being carried out, and the organizational structure of the army and navy was being improved.

From 1939 to June 1941 the numerical strength of the Armed Forces almost tripled, and exceeded 5 million men. Training of military cadres was expanding and improving, as was the combat proficiency of troops, and military science was developing. The activities of army and navy political agencies and party organizations were improving. The number of Communists in the army and navy more than tripled in 1938-1941, which strengthened party influence among the military masses. This entire system of measures ensured a substantial growth in the combat capabilities of the Soviet Armed Forces.

The farsighted policy and wisdom of the Communist Party leadership consisted precisely in the fact that it correctly determined the principal directions of development of world events, foresaw the possibility of imperialist aggression, and was preparing the country and people for defense. As a result that solid foundation was built upon which the Soviet people relied in gaining victory in the Great Patriotic War.

* * *

The war against the Soviet Union which was treacherously unleashed by German fascism on 22 June 1941 had been prepared for by the entirety of world imperialist reaction. It constituted the largest military clash between socialism and the shock forces of imperialism. It became the Great Patriotic War of the Soviet people for the freedom and independence of the socialist homeland. By its political content it was for our country a just war of liberation, in which was being determined not only the fate of socialism but also the fate of social progress and all of human civilization.

In the face of mortal danger, the Communist Party united the army and people even more solidly and mobilized all this country's resources for defeat of the fascist invaders, transforming our country into a unified military camp. The moral superiority of the Soviet serviceman and his ardent patriotism were fully revealed from the very first days of the war. The Hitlerite soldiers immediately saw that on the Eastern Front they were dealing with a totally

different adversary than in Western Europe. Even according to German figures, which were unquestionably exaggerated downward, by the middle of July the fascist army had lost more than 92,000 men and 50 percent of its original total number of tanks. But the enemy continued driving forward, in spite of enormous losses in men and equipment.

The political and military leaders of Hitlerite Germany concentrated their main efforts on the Smolensk-Moscow strategic axis, where the main attack was mounted, with the objective of capturing Moscow. Their plan was as follows: by striking at the country's very heart, to smash the resistance of the Red Army and to conclude the "blitzkrieg war" in victory. But these plans failed. In the Battle of Moscow, the 40th anniversary of which was widely celebrated in this country, an enemy force of more than 1 million men was defeated in detail. This was the Wehrmacht's first major defeat in World War II, shattering before the entire world the myth of the invincibility of the fascist German army. The strategy of "blitzkrieg war" failed totally and utterly. The historic victory at Moscow constituted the beginning of a radical turnaround in the course of the war. As Comrade L. I. Brezhnev noted, it inspired Soviet citizens to new deeds and strengthened their confidence that the enemy would inevitably be defeated.

A radical turning point in the Great Patriotic War and in World War II as a whole was achieved in the battles of the Volga, the Caucasus, and on the Kursk Salient in 1942-1943, in the course of which the German-fascist forces sustained losses in personnel and equipment which could not be replaced. The Soviet Armed Forces firmly and finally seized the strategic initiative, commenced a powerful offensive along the entire front, and completed it with total defeat of the aggressors. On 8 May 1945 fascist Germany surrendered unconditionally, and on 2 September militarist Japan laid down its arms.

The victory of the Soviet people and their Armed Forces over the shock forces of international imperialism is profoundly logical. It was historically dictated by the advantages of the socialist societal and governmental system engendered by the Great October Revolution. In the course of the war socialism surpassed capitalism in the area of politics and ideology, on the battlefields, in an economic contest, and in the diplomatic arena.

A high degree of combat power and invincibility were demonstrated by the Soviet Armed Forces, which crushed the most powerful armies of the capitalist world. Soviet military science and art of warfare gained the upper hand over the vaunted Prussian school of warfare, which had been considered the summit of bourgeois military thinking. In the flames of war the party and people produced outstanding military leaders, whose names are widely known throughout the world. Suffice it to mention such famed military commanders as G. K. Zhukov, A. M. Vasilevskiy, I. Kh. Bagramyan, N. F. Vatutin, L. A. Govorov, A. G. Golovko, A. I. Yermenko, I. S. Konev, N. G. Kuznetsov, F. S. Oktyabr'skiy, I. Ye. Petrov, K. K. Rokossovskiy, F. I. Tolbukhin, I. D. Chernyakhovskiy, and V. I. Chuykov.

The strategic offensive was the principal type of combat operation by our forces. Of the 51 strategic operations carried out by Soviet military

commanders, 35 were offensive. Partisan detachments and combined units conducted aggressive combat actions against the fascists together with the regular troops, and the members of the underground fought courageously. Soviet servicemen, true to the ideals of communism, staunchly and selflessly defended the achievements of the Great October Revolution. More than 7 million men were awarded decorations and medals for courage and bravery displayed in combat, and more than 11,600 were awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union. "Unprecedented mass heroism by Soviet citizens in the terrible years of military ordeal," noted Mar SU D. F. Ustinov, USSR minister of defense and member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, "graphically demonstrated to the entire world that a people for which defense of the socialist homeland is a personal, vital cause is invincible!"

Our country's economy displayed the greatest vitality and efficiency. We know that at the beginning of the war fascist Germany, which was occupying almost all of continental Europe, possessed a military-economic potential which was from 50 to 100 percent greater than that of the Soviet Union. This was the reason for the aggressor's temporary superiority in military hardware. But thanks to the advantages of the socialist economy, the wise and farsighted military-economic activities of the party, and the unprecedented labor enthusiasm of the Soviet peoples, industry delivered to the front during the war years more than 134,000 aircraft, approximately 103,000 tanks and self-propelled guns, and more than 825,000 guns and mortars. This made it possible not only fully to provide for the combat operations of the Armed Forces but also to surpass fascist Germany in armaments by 100 percent.

The Communist Party was the inspirer and organizer of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War. It was the party, guided by Leninist ideas on defense of the socialist homeland, which ensured unity of political, economic and strategic leadership, which drew up on the very first days of the war and subsequently implemented a program of mobilization of all manpower and resources to defeat the enemy. Having become a genuinely fighting party, it sent its finest human resources into the army and navy, where in January 1945 there were 3 million Communists serving. At the beginning of the war one out of every 10 servicemen was a Communist, while by war's end the figure was one out of every four.

Approximately half of the members and candidate members of the party Central Committee, and approximately 14,000 top-echelon party workers performed a big job as members of military councils of fronts and fleets, armies and flotillas, and as chiefs of political directorates and political sections of combined units and large strategic formations. They included Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, who during the entire war was performing leader-echelon party-political work in the army in the field. Both on the home front and on the battle front the party organized and unified tens of millions of people and guided their energy, will and actions toward a single goal -- toward victory.

The victory over German fascism and Japanese militarism was a common victory of many peace-loving peoples. But a decisive role in gaining this victory, contrary to the assertions of bourgeois falsifiers of history, was played by the Soviet Union and its Armed Forces. The Soviet-German front was the main, decisive front of World War II as a whole. From July 1941 through mid-1944 up

to 70 percent of fascist Germany's ground forces were on this front at one time. This front kept two thirds of the fascist troops occupied even following the landing by Anglo-American forces in the north of France in the summer of 1944. The fascists sustained three fourths of their casualties in the East. Up to three fourths of their combat equipment was destroyed on this front. Yes, facts are stubborn things. They convincingly affirm that the fate of mankind throughout the war was being determined on the Soviet-German front. The Soviet Armed Forces, having routed Japan's million-man Kwantung Army, also predetermined the outcome of the war in the Far East. "...Nobody has forgotten and nobody should ever forget," noted Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "that the people of our time to an enormous degree owe their very existence and freedom to the heroic Soviet people, the Soviet State, and the great socialist system!"

The victory of the Soviet people and their Armed Forces in the Great Patriotic War became an important historical landmark in the destiny of mankind. It exerted and continues exerting today enormous influence on the entire course of world development. The overall position of capitalism has become seriously weakened, and the domain of its actions has narrowed. At the same time the prestige and international status of the USSR have increased and grown stronger, and new favorable opportunities have opened up for development of the world revolutionary process. The consequences of our victory are clearly manifested in growth of the forces of peace, strengthening of the might of world socialism, development of the class struggle of the international proletariat, an increase in the mass character and influence of the Communist movement, and in intensification of progressive trends and an antiimperialist thrust in development of liberated countries.

* * *

While the entire world was giving the Soviet Nation due credit for its decisive contribution to the great Victory, imperialists in the United States and other countries commenced a so-called "cold war," unleashed an arms race, and established numerous aggressive military blocs -- NATO, SEATO, CENTO, and others, and an extensive network of military bases. In the innermost recesses of the Pentagon savagely cruel plans of waging an atomic war against the USSR were being drawn up one after the other.

In these conditions the Soviet Union, overcoming the difficulties of postwar rebuilding of the economy, was compelled to take response measures and to strengthen its security. In order to put an end to the atomic blackmail of imperialism, Soviet scientists successfully solved two most important military-technical problems -- they developed nuclear weapons and means of delivering nuclear warheads to the target. Equipping the Soviet Armed Forces with nuclear missile weapons became the principal component of the revolution in military technology which took place in the 1950's. A qualitatively new stage began in their organizational development.

A Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the European socialist nations was signed in Warsaw in May 1955. The Warsaw Pact, in contrast to NATO, is a purely defensive military-political alliance, which faithfully serves the cause of peace. As was noted at the 26th CPSU Congress,

it possesses everything needed in order reliably to defend the socialist achievements of peoples.

Major changes also took place in the organizational structure of the army and navy, taking into account the demands of modern warfare. Nuclear missile weapons began influencing in a determining fashion organizational development of the Soviet Armed Forces. In January 1960 the formation of a new branch of service -- the Strategic Rocket Forces -- was announced at a session of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Their organizational development and strengthening were accomplished under the direct supervision of the CPSU Central Committee and with its active assistance. The Ground Forces -- the largest branch of service in numerical strength and the most diversified in combat composition -- changed radically. They possess considerable firepower and striking power as well as a high degree of mobility.

The Air Defense Forces experienced further development. They are equipped with various powerful antiaircraft missile systems, all-weather supersonic fighter-interceptors, modern radars and other equipment. The combat capabilities and striking power of the Air Force have increased. It is armed with supersonic jet aircraft carrying rocket-cannon armament and modern radio-electronic gear.

The Navy has become a formidable force. It possesses nuclear-powered submarines and modern surface ships of various types, armed with missiles and homing torpedoes, and equipped with the most modern navigation, control and communication gear. Missile-armed naval aviation has become an important means of hitting the enemy. The navy of the Soviet Nation, as a great sea power, has emerged from enclosed seas into the expanses of the World Ocean and serves as an important factor in stabilizing the situation in various regions of the world and in restraining the aggressive intrigues of the imperialist nations.

Equipping the Soviet Armed Forces with modern weapons has substantially increased their striking power and firepower and has made them into a reliable guarantor of the peaceful labor of the Soviet people.

The Communist Party is tirelessly concerned with strengthening this country's military-economic potential. The Soviet Union turns out approximately as much industrial output as all the countries of Western Europe combined. It is the unchallenged world leader in output of many major industrial products. Considerable political, organizational and economic work is being done in this country aimed at consistent implementation of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and further comprehensive improvement of the developed socialist society.

The 11th Five-Year Plan has had a good start. National income, which is a synthesized economic indicator, increased by more than 13 billion rubles in the first year of the five-year plan. Industrial output rose by 21 billion rubles over the previous year. Farm workers gathered in the harvest in an organized manner, working under difficult weather conditions. The party's social program is being unswervingly carried out.

The decisions of the November (1981) CPSU Central Committee Plenum, the points and conclusions contained in Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech at the Plenum, and the laws adopted by the Sixth Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet concretize the tasks of building communism and clearly define the pathways and conditions of fulfillment and overfulfillment of this country's economic and social development plan for 1982 and the entire 11th Five-Year Plan as a whole.

Firmly implementing the Leninist peace strategy embodied in the Peace Program for the 1980's adopted at the 26th CPSU Congress, the Soviet Union and the other nations of the socialist community are aware that recently there has been a sharp increase in international tension and a sharply heightened danger of war. The main reason for this is intensification of the aggressiveness of the policy of imperialism, especially U.S. imperialism.

Militant U.S. and NATO circles, hiding behind the smoke screen of the myth of a "Soviet military threat," have set a course of policy aimed at thwarting détente and a return to "cold war," toward achieving military superiority over the socialist world.

An unprecedented arms race has commenced in the United States and the other NATO countries. In the 1981 fiscal year the Pentagon budget reached a record amount -- 180 billion dollars -- while in 1982 it will rise to 200 billion. In the next five years U.S. military expenditures will total more than one and a half trillion dollars. And yet U.S. military expenditures did not exceed 330 billion dollars for the entirety of World War II. Under U.S. pressure, intensified preparations are being made to deploy in the countries of Western Europe approximately 600 U.S. intermediate-range nuclear missile launchers. Their deployment would make it possible to obtain an almost 50 percent superiority in these weapons over the Warsaw Pact and would create a genuine threat of turning Europe into the site of another devastating war.

U.S. political and military leaders, possessed by ideas of world domination and pursuing goals of empire, are planning the conduct of a so-called "limited nuclear war" in Europe, delivery of a preemptive nuclear strike on the Soviet Union, and initiation of large-scale wars in various regions of the world. These sinister plans are being systematically polished and revised in the course of numerous U.S. and NATO armed forces exercises, in which Japan also frequently participates. Exercises are assuming an increasingly more global nature, are of a clearly-marked anti-Soviet thrust, and are assuming an offensive, aggressive character. These are in essence large-scale rehearsals for nuclear war, which threaten stability and peace in Europe and throughout the world.

U.S. imperialism is brazenly and cynically proclaiming entire continents to be within the sphere of its "vital interests" and is unceremoniously interfering in the internal affairs of many nations, including socialist countries. The United States has appreciably stepped up a campaign of vicious attacks on Cuba. Together with the other NATO countries, the United States is giving every possible encouragement and support to counterrevolutionary forces in Poland, with the aim of restoring a bourgeois system in that country and detaching it from the socialist community.

The aggressive forces of imperialism are increasingly more aggressively utilizing in the struggle against peace and socialism the anti-Soviet, hegemonist policy of the Beijing leaders. A Washington-Beijing-Tokyo military-strategic alliance is being intensively organized, which creates a threat to stability in the Far East and in Southeast Asia.

The aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism, its allies and accomplices extends essentially to all regions of the world. "Adventurism and willingness to gamble the vital interests of mankind for the sake of their own narrow, selfish aims," it was stated at the 26th CPSU Congress, "are being particularly clearly revealed in the policy of the most aggressive imperialist circles."

In these conditions the Communist Party and the Soviet State are doing everything possible to thwart the aggressive adventuristic plans of imperialism.

The Soviet Union and the other nations of the socialist community are waging a persistent campaign for implementation of the Peace Program for the 1980's. They proceed from confidence that a policy of peace and international cooperation will defeat a policy of escalation of tension. The nations of the socialist community, operating in a friendly and coordinated manner, seek to preserve and strengthen the process of détente.

Faced by a constantly growing military threat on the part of aggressive imperialist circles, the Soviet Union is forced to strengthen its defense capability and maintain its Armed Forces in a state of continuous combat readiness.

A most important feature of Soviet military organizational development at the contemporary stage is further enhancement of the role of the Communist Party in leading the Armed Forces. The party, its Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo, and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev personally directly handle all major questions pertaining to strengthening national defense. In a message of greeting from the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers to Comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev on the occasion of his 75th birthday, one reads the following: "For decades now you have devoted enormous attention to the defense capability of our nation and, serving as chairman of the Defense Council, have ensured that the peaceful labor of the Soviet people, its friends and allies is reliably secured."

Our party and people, deeply aware that as long as forces of aggression continue to exist, defense of the socialist homeland has been and continues to be a matter of paramount importance, are constantly concerned with strengthening the Soviet Army and Navy. They can be assured that the powerful combat equipment and weapons are in reliable hands. Soviet servicemen, faithful to the traditions of the heroes of the Great Patriotic War and totally dedicated to the Soviet homeland and the cause of communism, are capable and ready under all conditions fully to carry out their patriotic and internationalist duty.

The 26th CPSU Congress voiced high praise for the present level of the Soviet Army and Navy. "A solid fusion of a high degree of technical equipment, military expertise and indomitable morale," noted the CPSU Central Committee

Accountability Report, "describes the combat potential of the Soviet Armed Forces." Maintaining this potential is dictated solely by the interests of reliably guaranteeing the security of our homeland and its allies in today's complex international situation. The Soviet nation never has taken and never will take the road of aggression. In an interview with the West German magazine DER SPIEGEL, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev emphasized: "The Soviet Union threatens no one and is not about to attack anybody. And our military doctrine is of a defensive nature. It excludes preventive wars and the concept of 'first strike.' The continuous high degree of combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces is an insuperable obstacle in the path of implementation by imperialism of its aggressive plans.

"Our servicemen are honoring the 64th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy with new successes in carrying out the task specified by the 26th CPSU Congress -- to continue in the future reliably standing guard over the peaceful, productive labor of the Soviet people. This past training year constituted an important step forward in further improving combat readiness. The 'Zapad-81' [West-81] exercise, held in September 1981, demonstrated the improved level of operational-tactical training of staffs, the field, air and sea proficiency of troops and naval forces. "Excellent proficiency, precise teamwork and coordination among the combat arms, and skilled mastery of potent modern hardware," stated Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "all this was demonstrated in the course of the exercise. "Achievement of these results was promoted by the Armed Forces Socialist Competition held under the slogan "For a high degree of combat readiness and firm observance of regulations!" Many military collectives completed the training year with excellent marks in combat and political training, fully meeting socialist pledges. The initiators of the competition honorably kept their word. By order of the USSR Minister of Defense, for their achieved successes they were placed on the Honor Board of units and warships of the Soviet Army and Navy.

The training year which is now in progress is the year of the 60th anniversary of establishment of the USSR. In the course of winter combat training army and navy personnel are carrying out new, difficult and responsible tasks pertaining to guaranteeing the reliable security of our homeland. Soviet servicemen are working tirelessly to improve their field, air and sea proficiency, are mastering combat equipment and weapons, and are strengthening discipline and organization. Socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the USSR, under the slogan "Reliable defense of the peaceful labor of the Soviet people!" has received further impetus in the Armed Forces. Its initiators in the branches of service include the men of a missile unit (Lt Col I. Shelestov, commanding), of a twice-decorated guards tank regiment (Gds Lt Col S. Kiselev, commanding), of an antiaircraft missile regiment (Col V. Parshikov, commanding), of a red-banner guards bomber aviation regiment (Gds Lt Col V. Sadikov, commanding), and of a nuclear-powered missile-firing submarine (Capt 1st Rank V. Zhuravlev, commanding). Preparing to celebrate in a worthy fashion the glorious 60th anniversary of establishment of the USSR, Soviet servicemen see as their constitutional duty vigilantly and reliably guarding the peaceful labor of the multinational Soviet people, the achievements of socialism, and being in a state of readiness to offer a devastating rebuff to any aggressor.

The might of the entire fighting alliance of the armies of the Warsaw Pact member nations is growing together with development and strengthening of the Soviet Armed Forces. The Joint Armed Forces of the brother nations are capable of providing reliable collective defense of socialism against imperialist aggression.

The Soviet Army and Navy, ranked solidly behind the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee, will continue in the future vigilantly guarding our great socialist homeland.

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CSO: 1801/109

ARMED FORCES

POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION: -- ROLE OF PRIMARY PARTY ORGANIZATIONS

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 1, Jan 82 (signed to press 22 Dec 81) pp 57-68

[Wrap-up of the series of previously published articles on the theme "The Primary Party Organization -- the Center of Daily Ideological Indoctrination Activity" by Col Gen M. Sobolev, deputy chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy: "The Increasing Power of Political Influence"]

[Text] A discussion was conducted over the course of several months on the pages of KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL on enhancement of the role of primary party organizations as centers of daily ideological indoctrination activity. Commanders, political workers, party organization secretaries and party members, who took part in discussing this pressing problem, presented many interesting ideas and shared their plans and thoughts on ways to achieve further enhancement of the role of party organizations in the affairs of military collectives.

Clearly present in all the published materials was a committed endeavor on the part of their authors to appraise past achievements from the standpoint of the high demands of the 26th CPSU Congress. Approaching the amassed experience in a party-minded and principled manner, the authors frequently focused their attention on deficiencies and difficulties and on the necessity of more aggressively seeking new possibilities of improving the business of indoctrination of army and navy personnel. Obviously all the aspects of such a complex question can scarcely be examined in a single reader discussion, but the published materials enable one to reach certain general conclusions.

* * *

A distinctive feature of our societal affairs is enhancement of the role and responsibility of primary party organizations and their elected bodies (party committees, party bureaus) for the organization of indoctrinational work in collectives. This is an objective, logical process. It is dictated first and foremost by enhancement of the leadership role of the Communist Party and the socialist society and by improvement of the modes and methods of its implementation. "We know well from the experience of both the past and present," stated Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the 26th CPSU Congress, "that the role of leading force of society does not come automatically. This role is earned, gained in the course of constant, tireless struggle for the interests of the working

people. And this role is consolidated by the fact that the party is constantly deepening its bonds with the masses and lives by their needs and concerns."

Implementation of the party's guiding and directing role in the socialist society depends in large measure on the job done by primary party organizations, which are called upon to serve as the leading force of collectives, to ensure by all their work a combining of party policy with the living productivity of the masses. Army and navy party organizations are active implementers of CPSU policy in the Armed Forces; through these organizations our party is linked by the closest bonds to the masses of military personnel, indoctrinates and unifies them, organizes and mobilizes them for successful accomplishment of tasks pertaining to increasing the fighting efficiency and combat readiness of troops and naval forces and strengthening of our country's defense capability.

In the face of new, more complex tasks, a profound analysis of which was presented at the November (1981) CPSU Central Committee Plenum, increasingly higher demands are being made on party organizations. One of the main demands is a higher level of ideological work, for constant concern to achieve a steady increase in the consciousness and activeness of the masses continues to remain as always the foundation of and important content of party work. "Primary party organizations and party groups should be centers of daily ideological indoctrination activity," stated the CPSU Central Committee in its decree of 26 April 1979.

The importance of this document was strongly reaffirmed by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the 26th CPSU Congress. In the party Central Committee instructions we also find fundamental demands on party organizations as centers of ideological indoctrination activity. The CPSU Central Committee decree states that they are called upon "to unite the collective, skillfully to conduct individual work with people, to stimulate their social and labor activeness, to improve the level of their work and activities off the job, and to develop a sense of the new."

When we speak of transforming each army party organization into a center of ideological indoctrination activity, we mean first and foremost strengthening the attention of party committees, party bureaus, their secretaries, and all party members toward ideological and political indoctrination work, development of the ability to give it a high scientific level, to improve its efficiency, practicality and concreteness, and to achieve a closer link between this work and practical affairs, with accomplishing the tasks of training and indoctrination of personnel, and to develop its aggressive character. Improving in every possible way the Marxist-Leninist conditioning of Communists, party organizations are called upon to ensure profound ideological influence on all aspects of the life and activities of military collectives, to create in them healthy relations, an atmosphere of smooth, efficient military labor, a high degree of organization and discipline, to achieve full utilization of the available arsenal of means, methods and forms of active teaching of all Communists, and especially leader personnel, to engage in daily indoctrination of personnel, so that not one serviceman fails to receive continuous ideological influence.

The following question may arise: should the party organization encompass literally everything in order to assume the role of center of daily ideological indoctrination activity? Yes, perhaps it should, although the word "everything" should not be defined as dashing back and forth from one side to the other. It is important to understand and see the main task clearly and precisely at all times and always to find the principal element in carrying it out.

But the primary task of party organizations is implementation of the party's demands that the Soviet Armed Forces be a smoothly running, precision organism, possess a high degree of organization and discipline, carry out in an exemplary manner the tasks assigned by the CPSU, government and people, and be prepared at all times to offer a devastating rebuff to imperialist aggressors. This is especially necessary today, when the international situation has become sharply worsened through the fault of the imperialists, and particularly U.S. ruling circles.

Implementation of party policy in matters of defense of our homeland and defense of its interests cannot be ensured without continuous combat readiness and vigilance, honed to the highest degree, on the part of troops and fleets. The attention of the ideological indoctrination work of each party organization should be focused on this, and all party members should be enthusiastically involved in this work.

This is why, when we speak of the party organization as the center of daily ideological indoctrination activity, we incorporate into this concept the ability of the party collective as a whole and of each party member individually to unify the men and mobilize them to achieve new successes in mastering combat equipment and weapons, in strengthening discipline and organization, and in increasing the combat readiness of their subunit, their unit, and their warship.

Of course this task is carried out by party organizations by their characteristic forms and methods. In their daily actions they find their own approach, their own point of view. What is important here? It is important to reveal to each serviceman the lofty patriotic meaning of his military labor, not only convincingly to show the vital significance of constant combat readiness but also to form a clear understanding that it is forged out by the efforts of each and every serviceman and that in such a sacred matter as armed defense of our homeland there is no place in the military environment for indifference, passivity, and particularly irresponsibility. And wherever the ideological indoctrination efforts of the party organization are organically interwoven into the living tissue of military life, where the commander's order for organization of training and performance of duty is supported by concrete party means, where the noble appeal to increase combat readiness and strengthen military discipline is reinforced by painstaking work with each individual soldier, military order is more monolithic and the professional expertise of personnel and their political consciousness are higher.

The guards motorized rifle regiment in which Maj V. Tryakin serves as party committee secretary has for a long time now firmly displayed excellent performance levels in combat training and service. The men of the regiment demonstrated

excellent proficiency and smoothness in actions at the "Zapad-81" exercise. Credit for this unquestionably must go to the unit commander and all command-political personnel, who organize the men's training and indoctrination innovatively and in conformity with today's demands. The party committee and the entire party organization make a contribution, and a weighty contribution, to this. Its ideological influence and organizer efforts can be clearly seen in every activity which is significant in any way. Its strength lies in the ability to create not only in the party milieu but throughout the entire military collective as well a genuinely committed attitude toward those tasks which face the regiment, to make them close and understandable to each man, persuasively to demonstrate to personnel the indissoluble link between their daily efforts to master military skills and the labor feats of the Soviet people, and to ensure that the high demands of military service and its social significance are perceived consciously by each and every enlisted man, noncommissioned officer and officer as a patriotic duty, as a command of the homeland.

The regiment was preparing for the "Zapad-81" exercise. The party committee not only discussed in detail its mass-political and party-organizational tasks with Communists but also sought to ensure that they were assimilated by all personnel. The military-political significance of the exercise, the place of the unit and its responsible role were extensively explained to the men; they all made concrete socialist pledges. The daily political briefing session held by the Communists also included a demonstration of how these pledges are carried out. The men's moods and psychological state were sensitively determined, especially of those who would be operating in the most complex situation. Security measures were widely explained. Veterans of the Great Patriotic War told the young servicemen of the courage and heroism of their fathers and grandfathers. Communists did everything to ensure that the relay baton of the fame of the combat veteran heroes was worthily taken in the unit. In the dynamics of action they inspired the men by personal example, publicized the courageous and skillful, gave encouragement to the weary, and pulled forward the laggards. The field conditions, daily hard labor, and overcoming difficulties not only gave an opportunity for each Communist more fully to show himself to be an active political fighter but also demonstrated to all personnel what a powerful ideological force the party organization represents.

The relationship between ideological indoctrination work and the daily life and activities of military units and naval ships is clearly seen in socialist competition. As we know, it constitutes an active motive force in the campaign for a high level of fighting efficiency and combat readiness of subunits, units, and naval ships. And if we justifiably call competition a school of Communist indoctrination of servicemen, it is quite understandable how extensive here are the ideological indoctrination capabilities of the party organization and how important it is most fully to utilize them, to take into consideration the fact that competition is an innovative process, which tolerates no formalism or lack of originality, that it influences first and foremost a soldier's consciousness and feelings, and through them the result of his military labor. The men were inspired to achieve high performance levels, and it was explained to them how to achieve these levels; conditions were created so that each individual could demonstrate his innovative abilities -- and as a result we could count on success. The opposite result occurs when competition

is organized and conducted in a formalistic manner, when making pledges is not reinforced by an aggressive campaign to fulfill them, when people who firmly keep their word are not displayed as an example to others and where those who make a lot of noise but produce little are not censured. People immediately sense the phoniness of such situations. Indifference and sluggishness are engendered as a consequence, which reflects negatively on the moral atmosphere in the military collective.

Competition is presently in full swing in the army and navy, competition to honor in a worthy manner the 60th anniversary of establishment of the USSR, under the slogan "Reliable defense of the peaceful labor of the Soviet people!" Every day reports come in from the exercise areas, airfields, ranges and from warships at sea on the intensity with which our servicemen are working to improve this skill and telling how responsibly they are approaching the task of carrying out their socialist pledges. And in each such fact one can inalterably see the great force of the ideological charge which party organizations put into work with personnel. The concrete ideological indoctrination and organizational activities of the party organizations of the units which initiated the Armed Forces competition are a vivid example of this. Success in these, just as in many other collectives is determined to a significant degree by the high level of mass-political work, by extensive publicity of the experience of leading performers, by further development of the political and service activeness of military personnel, and by constant concern about the ideological influence of competition on its participants.

The role of each party organization in the moral-political solidarity of servicemen and in ensuring a high degree of combat readiness and fighting efficiency of units and warships is directly dependent on the ideological conviction of party members. Arming them with profound knowledge of Marxist-Leninist theory and skills of indoctrinational work comprises the main element, by seizing which the primary party organization can successfully accomplish all other tasks and ensure daily political influence on personnel. This is why one can transform the party organization into a center of ideological indoctrination activity only if a high degree of ideological conditioning of party members proper is ensured and they receive genuinely deep Marxist-Leninist training. And this presupposes well organized ideological-theoretical instruction as such.

And, we must state, Armed Forces party organizations have already accomplished a great deal toward achieving their goal. Judging from the results of the past training year, there is every reason to state that on the whole the system of Marxist-Leninist training and party organization has begun operating more efficiently and that the content of instruction classes is becoming more closely and organically linked with practical realities. This applies first and foremost to the principal forms of political instruction, in which the majority of Communists are engaged. For example, party committees and bureaus have begun examining in a more practical manner the Marxist-Leninist training of officer-Communists, have begun giving them more help in their independent study, and have a more demanding attitude toward the quality of lectures and seminar classes. Such proven forms of boosting the ideological-theoretical level of officer-Communists at theoretical and scientific-practical conferences on

current problems of theory and CPSU policy, party and military organizational development, training and indoctrination of military personnel have become quite widespread in recent years. Meriting approval is the practice of organizing consultations and theoretical discussions to assist Communists studying Marxist-Leninist theory, talks by members of party committees and bureaus as well as party organization secretaries with CPSU full members and probationary members on the absence of political training and receiving of reports from them on carrying out their obligations pertaining to matters of ideological growth. Numerous examples of how this is positively reflected in the training of party members were presented at report-election party meetings in the Moscow Military District, in the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, and in the Northern Fleet.

Study of the political instruction offered by the materials and documents of the 26th CPSU Congress in all forms had a beneficial effect on the status, quality and effectiveness of ideological-political training of Communists. In all districts and fleets, for example, as was revealed by the summary inspections and tests for the past training year, more than 85 percent of Communists in Marxist-Leninist training groups showed that they possess a deep understanding of the covered material. Communists enrolled at universities of Marxism-Leninism and evening party schools successfully completed the academic year.

In the training year which has now commenced, party organizations must not diminish their attention toward the work being done by Communists to deepen study of the materials and decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, its guidelines on defense matters, to ensure that plan-specified forms of training are supplemented by persistent independent study, so that continuous increasing of ideological-theoretical knowledge and expanding of one's ideological horizons constitute an inner need on the part of each and every party member and probationary member.

This is particularly important since at the present time not all party organizations are yet operating in such a spirit in the area of arranging political instruction for party members. And the point is not that these matters are ignored in the work plans of party organizations and at bureau and party committee meetings and sessions. Such a phenomenon is a rarity today. Another shortcoming lies in the fact that discussion and listening to reports are little effective by themselves if they are not preceded by a thorough examination of the essence of things, of the content of party member training. For example, in the party organization in which Maj N. Groshkov serves as secretary, many party members displayed rather mediocre knowledge of theoretical questions in the final class on Marxist-Leninist training and attempted to tie this knowledge in with their practical tasks in an extremely primitive and unskilled manner. It was determined that at seminar classes certain individuals made their presentations on the basis of crib notes, without going particularly deeply into the essence of the topic at hand. They did not become accustomed to working independently on primary sources and took notes in a haphazard manner. And what benefit is derived from the fact that questions pertaining to political training of party members here "wandered" from plan to plan. What we have here is not a party but rather a formalistic approach to things. It is obvious that in proceeding in such a manner the party

organization is merely moving away from the desired goal -- to become a genuine center of ideological indoctrination activity.

Of course when one speaks of the ideological growth of Communists, one has in mind not only their theoretical knowledge. An important quality of a Communist, an indicator of his political maturity and innovative zeal, his sociopolitical and practical activeness is his ability to reach practical conclusions for himself and for the military personnel around him from the decisions of the CPSU and Soviet Government as well as from the events taking place in this country and abroad, in each instance correctly to determine and take his place in the common work and struggle. A person who well understands and responsibly carries out his party and military duty, who displays intelligent initiative and enterprise, a person of winged thought and lofty deed, can be an active ideological warrior of the party. Unquestionably each Communist can be brought to such a sociopolitical and practical position only by a party organization which constructs ideological indoctrination work innovatively, clearly realizing that the personal example of a party member-serviceman not only embodies his finest qualities and individual features but also is a measuring stick of the political prestige of the entire party organization.

Of course one cannot reduce the exemplariness of a Communist merely to his excellent personal performance results in combat and political training and to exemplary performance of his military duties. Of course this is important and essential, but personal exemplariness of a party member, the facets of which are defined by the CPSU rules, is a broader concept. It encompasses all the qualities of the Communist: political, professional, and moral. In their aggregate they serve as a guarantee of an active life position on the part of the party member or probationary member. "How Communists work," stated Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the November CPSU Central Committee Plenum, "determines in large measure the atmosphere, the mood in work collectives, and production performance indices as well."

All our practical experience indicates that the ideological life of the party organization is full-fledged only when each party member serves as a passionate messenger of Marxist-Leninist ideas, a propagandist of Communist morality, an indoctrinator of the masses, and inspires them with his truthful word and personal example to selfless military labor. Hence the active ideological indoctrination work by Communists among the soldier masses, all-encompassing and stable party influence not only on the various categories of personnel but also on each individual serviceman, are a mandatory condition for transforming the primary party organization into a center of daily ideological indoctrination activities.

At this point we should like to state that we are talking not only about unit and warship party organizations. This applies in equal measure to all our party organizations: headquarters, establishment, military educational institution, production, and others. Party organizations do not simply participate actively in the complex and diversified indoctrinational process which is taking place in military collectives in a combined manner, and they do not simply supplement the efforts of commanders, political agencies and political workers. They set the tone of all ideological indoctrination work and actively

promote formation in our people of excellent moral-political, fighting and psychological qualities, a Communist attitude toward military labor and societal affairs, development of a feeling of collectivism and comradely mutual assistance, and responsibility for carrying out one's military duty.

Concerned with strengthening the moral-political potential of each military collective, commanders, political agencies, and party organizations must take into account aggravation of the ideological struggle in the international arena. Imperialist propaganda, with which the propaganda of the Beijing hegemonists is closely aligned, seeks with the aid of most sophisticated methods and modern technical means to poison the consciousness of Soviet citizens with slander against Soviet realities, against our way of life, to blacken socialism and at the same time to make imperialism and its predatory aggressive policy more attractive.

Of course attacks and sabotage by imperialist ideologues are unable to shake the sociopolitical and ideological unity of our people and the men of the Soviet Armed Forces. But they should not be underrated. They must be aggressively stopped and exposed. The party demands that we counter them with well-argued propaganda of the historical advantages and achievements of socialism and that we continuously and purposefully reinforce in the consciousness of our personnel, and particularly young servicemen, the historic significance of the enormous social achievements of socialism for the good of working people and step up patriotic and internationalist indoctrination.

Ideological indoctrination work by party organizations in military and labor collectives presupposes extensive utilization of all its forms and means. This is an important step along the road toward becoming a center of ideological indoctrination activity. As we know, in the conditions of the Armed Forces we have the opportunity to provide scheduled political training of all categories of personnel, organized by commanders and political workers. This is a powerful and constantly operating means of political indoctrination, and party organizations are doing a great deal to ensure that it is utilized more efficiently. It is also important more fully to utilize the possibilities of mass political, agitation-propaganda work. Party organizations have an extensive field of activity here. Concern for efficient political briefing of personnel, extensive utilization for these purposes of the presentations of lecturers, speakers, political briefing personnel, and agitators, and attention to ensure that the established practice of unified political days not only brings a certain amount of party information to people but also strengthens the bonds of reader personnel with the broad military masses -- all this cannot help but be of interest to party organizations and their directing agencies.

In selecting given means and forms of ideological indoctrination work, one should always bear in mind for whom they are intended. Military collectives are inhomogeneous in composition from the standpoint of service activities. General educational and technical training differ among servicemen, as do habits, character, practical life experience, and ethnic features. A certain selectivity is required in approach to officers and, for example, warrant officers, noncommissioned officers and enlisted personnel, experienced and recently-inducted soldiers and sailors. And many other various nuances in

approach to personnel arise in practical ideological activities. To conduct indoctrination innovatively means to endeavor to see beyond the widespread term "personnel" the individual with his complex spiritual and intellectual organization.

Our life and daily practical indoctrinational activities insistently demand that the content of ideological and political indoctrination work become more pertinent and that the forms correspond to today's aspirations and needs of Soviet servicemen. "All ideological indoctrination work should be conducted in a lively and interesting manner, without stereotyped phrases and a standard set of ready formulas." This instruction of the 26th CPSU Congress is one of the main demands on party organizations as centers of ideological indoctrination activity.

The acuteness today of the question of the necessity of radical improvement of ideological indoctrination work was persuasively stressed in the CPSU Central Committee decree of 26 April 1979. Referring to this decree, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stated from the speaker's stand at the 26th CPSU Congress, as we know, that it is essentially a matter of reorganizing many areas and domains of ideological work. Today very much depends on how the local party organizations understand the essence of this reorganization and how they carry it out.

We should like to discuss from this standpoint a letter addressed to the editors from Maj V. Babushkin. The letter discussed what would seem to be a rather narrow question: how a party committee directs an agitation and propaganda group. The work being done by this elected body would appear to be distinguished by practicality; successful attempts to coordinate in the closest way lecture propaganda and political agitation with the tasks of personnel. But perhaps the most important thing is the fact that one senses in the letter an endeavor on the part of the party committee to change its own work style, to reject the temptation to evaluate the effectiveness of agitation-propaganda work solely on the basis of total number of lectures and reports, and to free volunteer propagandists from the habit of getting away with general phrases where they should answer in a simple and clear manner questions which are of concern to people.

And yet this is actually a genuine reorganization, and by no means a simple one, since we are dealing here with human psychology and stereotypes which have taken root in one's consciousness. And if the Communists of the subunit, warship and military unit deeply perceive the great acuteness and importance of such a reorganization, they will both think and act in a spirit of party demands, and mobilizing their fellow personnel, acquiring more and more new assistants and kindred spirits. If, however, the necessity and importance of reorganization are only declared, while essentially everything remains without change, such a "line of conduct" of the party organization will scarcely enjoy prestige and exert the proper influence on the entire collective.

Party committees and party bureaus are called upon to put a permanent end to abstract theorizing, impractical deliberations, and verbal stereotypes which still occur in political indoctrination practice. Unfortunately some elected party bodies sometimes keep at a distance from this important matter, dumping

it on the shoulders of propagandists, do not always analyze the content and language of talks, reports and lectures, and do not display genuine concern for improving their quality. Substantial weaknesses in the ideological and political indoctrination activities of certain party organizations are due to this to a significant degree; the most important of these weaknesses include an inadequate link with practical matters, with current problems of concern to people, and manifestations of formalism and meaningless talk.

Proceeding from this is the following demand, which is of great importance and pertinence: in order to be at the center of daily ideological indoctrination activity, the party organization should be tirelessly concerned with improving the propaganda skills of Communists and especially comrades who head various areas of political indoctrination work. It is a great art to translate into the language of emotionally persuasive, living images many of our mundane facts and phenomena, and statistical data which are externally sometimes dry but filled with enormous social content. It demands a high degree of ideological persuasion and propagandist skill.

The above of course does not mean that indoctrination of servicemen is accomplished solely by means of mass propaganda and agitation. Obviously one of the most important elements is work with individuals, which, in spite of a diversity of indoctrinational forms and means, remains most important for party organizations and which offers the greatest opportunities for involving every party member in participation in the indoctrination process.

The principal elements of individual work include, first of all, thorough study of the composition of military collectives in order precisely to determine those categories of servicemen in the indoctrination of whom the individual approach is especially useful; secondly, determination of the principal manpower on which one could rely for practical performance of such work; third, elaboration of efficient methods of organization, verification and determination of the effectiveness of individual indoctrination. The task consists in ensuring that not one CPSU member or probationary member remains at a distance from ideological indoctrination work in the masses of military personnel, army and navy civilian workers and employees. It is a matter of honor and duty for each and every Communist to have heart-to-heart talks with personnel, to explain to them party policy and decisions, international and domestic events, the demands of the oath and military regulations, the tasks assigned by the commander, and to perform practical individual work in any and all situations.

An important role is played by personal contacts between an officer and his subordinates. It is in the course of a heart-to-heart talk with personnel that the officer finds out about their needs, their character traits, propensities, and interests. The officer also more fully reveals himself during such contact: not only as a superior but also as an individual. A correct job is done by those party organizations which support officers in every way, which constantly seek a point of contact with personnel not only in an on-duty but also off-duty environment, and which persistently work to improve practical indoctrinational work. All these are far from secondary matters, for frequently that close contact and mutual understanding which help unify a military collective and maintain high discipline and organization are

established precisely with an ordinary talk and daily contact between a commander and his subordinates.

Individual work, however, consists not only in one-on-one talks. It also includes constant attention toward a comrade, direct assistance in mastering a combat skill and, if necessary, a stern word of censure. We should like to comment that individual work, in combination with mass-political means -- of course well done and with good quality -- creates a solid foundation for strengthening conscientious military discipline and helps commanders maintain a high degree of organization and observance of regulations. A wealth of army and navy experience convinces us of this.

In the airborne troops a fine job of performing its tasks has been accomplished by the competition initiator regiment which until recently was under the command of Lt Col Ye. Semenov. There have been no serious disciplinary infractions in this unit going on two years now. The list of such highly important components of success as precise performance of duty, strict observance of regulations, and well-organized training also include skillfully arranged mass-political and individual indoctrination work. In this regiment the commander and party organization plan and resolve in a combined manner all matters pertaining to political, military and moral indoctrination. Constantly in close contact with the men, party members are always current on all processes of the daily lives, attitudes and aspirations of the men, promptly note and localize the slightest deviation from moral standards, originating from whatever quarter, and prevent it from spreading. Unity of word and deed is a characteristic feature of this collective.

The activities of this and many other party organizations show quite clearly that the effectiveness of ideological influence on the morale, military labor, performance of duty and discipline of servicemen is greater when the party organization is more fully informed on the actual daily processes of life of military collectives, where it studies them, determines the sources of given things and facts, responds promptly and skillfully to isolated negative phenomena, takes public opinion into account and intelligently utilizes it in moral reward for the top performers, criticism and exposure of the negligent. A conscientious base of military discipline and performance of duty and its moral-political essence offer extensive opportunities to party organizations to introduce into military collectives ideological conviction, a high degree of organization, moral mobilization, and social responsibility.

In its decree entitled "On Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Indoctrination Work," the CPSU Central Committee demands that primary party organizations develop a sense of the new in our cadres. This quality is assuming a special role today. Discussing what is necessary for carrying out the grandiose plans specified at the 26th CPSU Congress, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stressed: "First and foremost, a strong sense of responsibility and firm, genuinely Communist, conscious discipline. But of course no less essential is flight of intellect, tireless search for the new, and support of what is new. Constant initiative is needed -- initiative in all places and in all things."

Manifestation of such initiative is inconceivable without breaking obsolete habits and without a resolute campaign against bureaucratic paper shuffling, which impedes vibrant organizational work. Commanders, political agencies, and party organizations are called upon actively to support those who display innovativeness in carrying out assigned tasks, persistently to publicize their experience and to instill in military cadres initiative and responsibility for the end result of their labor and intolerance toward sluggishness, lack of initiative, and conservatism. Needed in all elements of our activities is a persistent and continuous search for the finest models and techniques, the ability to strike to the heart of advanced know-how, and considerable ideological and organizational work, aimed at placing this experience in the service of combat readiness.

It is possible to achieve all this only when one can perceive the future, when one possesses a sense of the new. And in order successfully to develop in all Communists a feeling for the new in their work, it is essential first and foremost to indoctrinate them in a spirit of a critical attitude toward their activities and constantly to seek ways to improve them. Criticism and self-criticism are a weapon against those who shun the new, whose deeds drown in a flood of empty verbiage and a show of imaginary activity. It is necessary, as was pointed out at the 26th CPSU Congress, to establish in all party organizations a spirit of self-criticalness and implacable opposition toward shortcomings.

Party work is work with people. Its principal method is the method of persuasion. In contrast to service and administrative activities, the party organization finds for accomplishing the same tasks, as has already been emphasized in a number of reader responses, its own approach, which mandatorily presupposes ideological influence on people. Only under this condition can it secure for itself within the collective authority and the status of a political center, a unique nucleus, which exerts influence on those around it. Therefore when we say that the party organization should be a genuine center of daily ideological indoctrination activity, we have in mind a party organization which possesses great attractive force as a bearer of progressive political ideas and bold innovator views, as a standard of highly moral principles, as a fighting detachment of kindred spirits, who know how both to fight for their convictions in a Leninist manner and to implement them. Unification of a military collective also takes place around such a party organization.

Obviously the life-giving process of enrichment of the personnel of a subunit, unit, and warship with ideological-moral values is directly dependent on the situation in the party organization. Servicemen determine the line of their own conduct from its pulsebeat. And the Komsomol organization borrows its work style and forms in Komsomol members an attitude toward performance of duty according to the example of the Communists.

The Communist improves and strengthens his ideological maturity, his organizer abilities, and his moral qualities in the party collective. He matures, becomes toughened, and acquires the skills of an aggressive political warrior in the crucible of party affairs. And wherever Leninist standards of party affairs have become firmly rooted, this is achieved more rapidly.

Lt Col V. Faletskiy correctly notes in his report that life has convincingly confirmed that if there has been created in the party organization a situation of mutual high-principledness, self-criticalness, implacability toward shortcomings, and comradely frankness, a situation in which the interests of the job at hand are valued first and foremost, this inevitably leaves a noticeable trace in the consciousness of others and will definitely affect their attitude toward performance of duty. And this is in fact the case.

The effectiveness of ideological indoctrination work depends on how internal affairs are arranged in the party organization, on the extent to which all its forms are directed toward securing a vanguard role by Communists in military collectives and toward stimulating their political activities in the masses. That party organization in which questions pertaining to ideological and political indoctrination work remain outside its attention, where a political approach to things is replaced by formal discussion of current tasks, where high-principledness and demandingness are replaced by lenience and all-forgiveness and party criticism and self-criticism by conciliatoriness toward shortcomings and by indifference cannot be a genuine center of ideological indoctrination activity.

Unfortunately there are still encountered certain Communists who serve without enthusiasm or inspiration, who remain silent at party meetings and, when encountering shortcomings, pretend not to notice them. There are also certain comrades who enthusiastically support a given initiative by word, but when it is time to commence deeds and display a personal example, they keep their distance. The entire meaning and content of intraparty work is focused precisely on ensuring that such negative elements are excluded from practical party activities.

To be centers of daily ideological indoctrination activities -- this demand places great responsibility on party committees, party bureaus, secretaries, and the large body of activists. A substantial role here should be played by unit and warship political workers. They should be distinguished by deep penetration into all the numerous areas of ideological and political indoctrination work.

The political sections of combined units, exercising leadership of party organizations, are called upon to ensure close coordination of all party components and to ensure that each and every component, each and every party activist accomplish within the designated area and at the designated level, using party methods and means, those tasks which are common for the unit and warships. Today, when as a result of the recently completed reports and elections many new comrades came into party organization leadership positions, it is necessary that political agencies pay considerable attention to them, ensuring their training and developing in them a taste for ideological work.

On the whole, statements by this journal's readers on this important topic once again persuasively confirm that the 26th CPSU Congress, its decisions and documents introduced a powerful rejuvenating stream into the ideological affairs of army and navy party organizations. As a result their link with party-unaffiliated servicemen has become even stronger, and the arsenal of

propagandist, agitation means has become more extensive. Under the direction of party agencies, party organizations of units and warships have begun to show greater concern for improving the quality of political training of military personnel, the ideological content of measures being carried, and are more closely coordinating their mass-political work with the activities of commanders and with the process of troop combat training. We should view all this, however, only as a foundation for further unifying military collectives and for mobilization of personnel for successful accomplishment of the responsible tasks assigned by the USSR minister of defense.

* * *

Time is advancing swiftly. It seems that only yesterday we were totaling up the results of the past training year and were honoring the winners of socialist competition, but today all this is far behind us, and the new training year is picking up pace. Preparations for the Armed Forces Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations are in full swing. Naturally the attention focus at this conference will be on the question of how army and navy Communists are implementing the broad, scientifically substantiated program of further improving ideological and political indoctrination work advanced by the 26th CPSU Congress and by the CPSU Central Committee decree of 26 April 1979. But much still remains to be accomplished. It is therefore important that each and every Communist even more deeply perceive the full significance of this task and be fully aware of the fact that this is the paramount business of each and every party organization in the Armed Forces. And to be at the center of this great, general party business means to assist in every way the unification of military collectives and development of personnel activeness in training and performance of duty. This means subordinating the entire force of ideological influence to mobilization of personnel for increasing the combat readiness of units and warships.

"Ideological work," stresses Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in his "Vospominaniya" [Reminiscences], "always has been and continues to be one of the paramount tasks of the Communist Party. This work is diversified: it demands scientific analysis of the processes which are taking place in society, and it demands constant solving of problems which arise in connection with this." The approach and demands of the party are also expressed in the above most meaningful words. Implementation of these demands is the task of all commanders, political agencies and party organizations.

From the editors: With this article we conclude our series of articles under the heading "The Primary Party Organization -- the Center of Daily Ideological Indoctrination Activity." However, in view of the importance of the questions which have been discussed and growing reader interest in the problems addressed, the editors intend to continue the discussion. In connection with a forthcoming major event in the lives of army and navy Communists, a series of articles under a new theme heading will be presented by this journal -- "Approaching the Armed Forces Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations." We invite commanders, political workers, and party

activists to express their opinions, to share their experience, and to discuss how to raise initiative, activeness and high-principledness even higher in the work of party organizations aimed at further increasing army and navy combat readiness.

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CSO: 1801/109

ARMED FORCES

RESULTS OF 'ZAPAD-81' TRAINING EXERCISE DISCUSSED

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 1, Jan 82 (signed to press 22 Dec 81) pp 69-73

[Article by Col V. Bystrov: "Engendered by Initiative: From the Experience of the 'Zapad-81' Exercise"]

[Text] The "Zapad-81" [West-81] exercise. When I think about it, I see before me the faces of many officers, warrant officers, noncommissioned officers, and enlisted men -- persons who displayed in the most complex conditions models of skill, organization, staunchness, courage, initiative and efficiency, and who demonstrated excellent moral qualities. Appraising the "Zapad-81" exercise, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stated: "We are satisfied with the results. Excellent proficiency, precise coordination and teamwork among the combat arms, and skilled mastery of modern equipment -- all this was demonstrated in the course of the exercise." High praise! It inspires servicemen to new achievements and places on them a great deal of responsibility.

Field exercises are a fine school and serious tests for all those who have taken part in them. Personnel were compelled to operate in the complex conditions of receiving fire. Ammunition was realistically employed in the course of the exercise, and tanks, infantry fighting vehicles and other combat equipment were operating aggressively. It was necessary to accomplish missions of great complexity, requiring full exertion.

As regards sources of success, naturally one must state that success was contributed to by the precise, coordinated activities of commanders, political workers, party, Komsomol, and propagandist activists.

One of the important features of the exercise was the high degree of moral potential of the troops participating in it, the patriotic enthusiasm which embraced the personnel of units and subunits, and the indomitable desire by each and every serviceman to carry out his assigned task as well as possible. All this was achieved by means of aggressive and purposeful ideological work, organized both during the period of preparations for and during the exercise. The ideological-theoretical legacy of V. I. Lenin, his theses and conclusions on the aggressive nature of imperialism, on defense of the socialist homeland, and on the role of the Soviet Armed Forces in the political system of our state

were extensively disseminated on the eve of the exercise in lectures, reports, in Marxist-Leninist training group classes, and at political instruction classes. Commanders, political workers and propagandists made personnel deeply cognizant of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and its assessment of the world situation. Much attention was devoted to publicizing our homeland's successes in building communism. Materials from newspapers, radio and television reports on the selfless labor of Soviet citizens in achieving the targets of the 11th Five-Year Plan were extensively utilized for this.

Work connected with explaining the military-political situation and exposing the aggressive nature of imperialism and its intensifying preparations for war against the USSR and the other socialist countries was actively carried out. At that time the U.S. President made the decision to engage in full-scale production of a barbaric weapon for the destruction of human lives -- neutron weapons -- the U.S. military was continuing to escalate tension in the Near and Middle East, U.S. army units stationed in the FRG were being re-deployed toward the borders of the GDR and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, provocation of petty intrigues pertaining to the events in Poland were being carried out, and insurgent bands in Afghanistan were stepping up their activities. All this naturally was reflected in the lectures and talks given by propagandists and agitators.

During the period of preparation for the exercise, classes were conducted with personnel in all forms of political training, according to a prior determined list of topics, taking into account the specific features of the tasks being performed. For example, the topic "The 26th CPSU Congress on Stepped-Up Aggressiveness on the Part of Imperialism and the Need to Increase Vigilance and Combat Readiness" was studied by officers within the Marxist-Leninist training system. Topics were specified for classes with warrant officers, noncommissioned officers, and enlisted personnel.

Reader personnel, staff and volunteer propagandists took part actively in explaining the military-political situation. Their attention was also focused on questions pertaining to the internationalist indoctrination of personnel and strengthening the fighting alliance with the servicemen of the armies of the brother socialist nations. The decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the contents of articles by Communist Party and Soviet Government officials published on the eve of the exercise were thoroughly explained.

Commanders, political workers, and propagandists took into consideration the fact that the exercise was being held on the territory of republics the population of which possesses rich revolutionary, labor and combat traditions. There are many monuments to combat glory in the area. They include Glory Hill by Minsk, the Brest Fortress-Hero and Khatyn' Memorial.... Excursions to these sites and get-togethers with war veterans were arranged for participants in the exercise.

In the course of the exercise much attention was devoted to indoctrinating servicemen in the glorious fighting traditions of the Soviet Armed Forces as well as units and combined units with a heroic fighting history. Many companies on the rolls of which are entered Heroes of the Soviet Union came out

with a patriotic initiative -- to perform at the exercise in not less than excellent fashion. Among the first to issue such an appeal were the men of the company on the rolls of which are permanently entered Heroes of the Soviet Union Gds Lt P. Rak and Gds Sgts A. Petryayev and A. Danilov.

We should note that other initiatives were also quite widespread in the course of the exercise. For example, the men of the subunit under the command of Capt S. Volkovich competed for the right to fire for Hero of the Soviet Union Gds Sr Lt I. Chupilko. They were also engaged in competition for the honor of being on the crew named for this Hero of the Soviet Union. "Best Platoon" and "Best Crew" pennants were awarded, and a military glory flag was raised in honor of the competition leaders.

Get-togethers between the personnel of the different combat arms and naval forces also proved beneficial. They helped strengthen friendship and the fighting alliance, helped each man more precisely determine his place in the overall fighting organism, and they engendered the aspiration to perform one's assigned missions efficiently and with high quality.

Many useful things were obtained, for example, by get-togethers between tank crewmen, artillerymen, missile crewmen, and aviators held in a certain unit. It would be operating on the spearhead of the attack, and naturally at the get-togethers they talked of coordinated actions by personnel in the attack, the artillerymen, mortar crewmen and missile crewmen supporting them, and about strict observance of the demands imposed on them, organization and discipline.

One important point is that at get-togethers there were lively discussions of military duty, the significance of the exercise, and the paramount necessity of performing at a full effort. Noncommissioned officers and enlisted personnel stated their thoughts and feelings and did not conceal their pride in the fact that they had been given the honor of taking part in such an exercise as "Zapad-81."

Many other forms of ideological indoctrination work were also utilized taking into account the concrete situation. Much attention was devoted to holding political-instruction hours at a high level. Their topics were the following: "The 26th CPSU Congress on the World Military-Political Situation and the Need for Further Increasing Vigilance and Combat Readiness"; "Excellent Performance at the Exercise -- Our Response to the Decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress"; "It is the Patriotic Duty of Every Serviceman to Cherish and Build Upon Combat Traditions." They were conducted by political workers not by groups but by subunits (companies, batteries).

In a certain motorized rifle subunit I witnessed how a young political worker, Sr Lt V. Dolgushin, prepared for a political instruction class. He took out of his map case one after the other latest-edition, just-received newspapers, quickly read articles of interest to him, and took notes.

At the appointed time the men gathered for the political instruction class. The political worker told them about NATO military preparations, the adventurist policy of the U.S. administration, events in the Near East, reminded

them of the duty of Soviet servicemen to be vigilant and prepared to repulse any aggression, from whatever quarter, and stressed the enormous importance of persistent military labor and the exercise in which the men were taking part. The men listened attentively to the officer's vivid, well-argued presentation and drew appropriate conclusions.

The senior lieutenant also demanded that agitators and Komsomol activists display more initiative and persistence in their work and that they utilize all opportunities for ideological conditioning of personnel....

The company was on the move. During one halt I approached a group of men gathered around a stocky, black-browed soldier. I listened. "...Others think as follows," the soldier read. "Aim, squeeze the trigger, and another fascist bites the dust. No, an intelligent approach is required here. After all, can you take out a fascist at 800 meters? Do you know how to learn to do so? I'll tell you. First of all, be able to determine that he is at a range of 800 meters, not at 600 or 750. This requires a fine ability to estimate distance. Geometry is required to compute distances by angle...."

After reading several more paragraphs, the soldier began a discussion on how his fellow soldiers should proceed when launching an assault.

I later learned that this talk was being conducted by platoon agitator Pvt V. Krasanov. He had borrowed from the political worker a book by V. Kozhevnikov containing a short story entitled "Higher Marksmanship Education," in order to read aloud to the men the admonitions of that combat veteran. He decided that after this a discussion on current matters and concrete tasks would be more interesting. He was correct.

The entire large detachment of agitators performed aggressively at the exercise. They explained to their fellow soldiers the basic components of success in combat, related the exploits of heroes from the same unit during the years of the Great Patriotic War, and they read Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's reminiscences "Malaya Zemlya." And, most important, they displayed a personal example in performance of tasks and acted skillfully, resolutely, and with initiative in all areas. In their deeds and actions the men emulated such agitators as Sr Sgt V. Vil'gush, Jr Sgt A. Muzalevskiy, Pvt A. Popov, and others.

Many propagandists displayed considerable activeness in organization of ideological and political indoctrination work at the maneuvers. They included Maj P. Konovalov. He regularly presented interesting lectures and reports to the men, held talks, and briefed ideological activists. The propagandist organized political instruction classes in some subunits which were separated from their units. He made sure that newspapers were promptly delivered to the subunits, that all categories of personnel were efficiently briefed, and that information was collected and processed.

We should also state that in the course of the exercise each Communist considered it his duty actively to participate in ideological indoctrination of personnel and in ideological work. Present in the most critical sectors, party

members and probationary members ensured through personal example and passionate appeal a fine aggressive attitude on the part of officers, non-commissioned officers and enlisted personnel.

Party member S. Sal'nikov, for example, held a talk for the men of an aviation subunit just prior to the "battle." He reminded them that the collective had every capability to perform the mission in excellent fashion, he emphasized the importance of skilled actions by each and every man, demonstrated with examples of the finest specialists how one should proceed in complex conditions, and stated where one should direct attention in servicing equipment and working on teamwork and coordination. This Communist's appeal found a response in the men's hearts. They performed skillfully at the exercise and accomplished the mission with honor.

Officer-Communist A. Rodimov took active part in mass agitation work in his subunit. He communicated to personnel the appeal by veterans of the Great Patriotic War to the men of the Red-Banner Belorussian Military District and to all participants in the exercise, related vivid episodes of selfless actions by Soviet fighting men in battle against the Hitlerite invaders during the war years, and called upon each and every enlisted man and noncommissioned officer to perform at the exercise as in true combat. All this mobilized personnel to successful actions. The crew in which Pvt A. Mel'nikov serves, for example, surpassed the performance standard by 10 percent in setting up equipment in the fire position, and delivered accurate fire at air targets in conditions of limited visibility. The "aggressor" was unable to thwart a river-crossing operation. And there were many such examples.

Komsomol activists took an example from the Communists and learned from them to display initiative and innovativeness in any situation, to influence and lead the men. I shall cite the following fact. A tank company was to be operating in particularly complex conditions. At this time the commander, political worker, and other Communists performed explanatory work, appealing to each man to stint no effort to carry out his duties. Komsomol activists also became involved. At their initiative company personnel appealed to all the men in the unit to conduct the exercise in an excellent fashion. This appeal was supported. Many noncommissioned officers and enlisted men took a patron status with younger personnel, helped them better prepare the equipment for the march, and helped them improve the level of their technical proficiency. In the field as well activists constantly publicized the know-how of the finest driver-mechanics and gunners, urged their fellow servicemen to achieve successful accomplishment of the combat mission, and inspired confidence in those who were taking part in an exercise for the first time. As a result the company tank crews resolutely attacked the "aggressor" at the proper moment.

We could cite many examples of courage, skill and heroism displayed by servicemen at the maneuvers.

...Gds Pvt L. Manokhin and Gds Jr Sgt A. Uporov were faced with a difficult situation during an airborne assault. Landing on a single parachute, these guardsmen quickly recovered from their harrowing experience in the air. Together with their comrades, they proceeded to carry out their combat mission.

...The combat engineers of one of the subunits were ordered to dam a river in order to raise the water level at a certain point. The combat engineers, working in difficult conditions, displayed considerable persistence and initiative.

...Tank commander Gds Sgt S. Krasnodubskiy, infantry fighting vehicle driver Pvt V. Magera and many others proved to be genuine experts at their job and courageous patriots of the homeland.

Time passes swiftly. Each passing day takes us further from that important event in the life of the Armed Forces -- the "Zapad-81" exercise. But the experience gained in organizing ideological and political indoctrination work at this exercise remains the valuable possession of commanders, political workers, propagandists, and active utilization of this experience, taking the concrete situation into account, is one of our most important tasks.

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ARMED FORCES

WARSAW PACT: TROOP INDOCTRINATION OUTLINE

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 1, Jan 82 (signed to press 22 Dec 81) pp 83-88

[Article by Candidate of Historical Sciences Col N. Rumyantsev: "Fighting Alliance of the Armies of the Brother Socialist Nations"]

[Text] This class will help students more fully and comprehensively grasp the history of the birth, development, and evolution of the internationalist fighting alliance of brother armies of the socialist nations and more deeply to understand the necessity of strengthening their defense might in conditions of an increase in the aggressive preparations of imperialism.

Eight hours are allocated to study of this topic. It is advisable to distribute this time as follows: provide two hours for a lecture (presentation), two hours for independent study, and four hours for a seminar (discussion).

The following topic items should be discussed in the lecture (presentation):

1. Emergence and development of the fighting alliance of brother socialist nations;
2. The Warsaw Pact -- military-political defensive alliance of the socialist nations;
3. The 26th CPSU Congress on the need for further strengthening the defense might of the Warsaw Pact member nations.

The instructor should point out in a brief introduction that the peoples of the nations of the socialist community have entered the new year 1982 in an atmosphere of great political and labor activeness. They are filled with resolve to make this year a year of further strengthening of their unity, friendship and cooperation and to continue building upon the historic achievements of world socialism.

The military-political defensive alliance of socialist nations, embodied in the Warsaw Pact Organization, is continuing to become stronger. The countries united in this alliance closely coordinate their foreign policy activity in the interests of guaranteeing their own security and preserving peace throughout the world. At the same time they are developing military cooperation for defense of the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the socialist nations against the aggressive intrigues of imperialism.

1. Emergence and Development of the Fighting Alliance of the Brother Socialist Countries

The world-historic victory of the USSR in the Great Patriotic War greatly enhanced the international prestige of the Soviet Union and convincingly demonstrated the superiority of the new system. Socialism not only had survived a mortal clash with the shock force of imperialism -- Hitlerite fascism -- but had also brought liberation to the peoples of Europe and Asia.

The defeat of German fascism and Japanese militarism in World War II led to the collapse of reactionary regimes in many countries of Europe and Asia and created a favorable situation for the struggle by the working people for socialism. The socialist system emerged victorious as a result of successful revolutions in a number of European and Asian countries.

Formation of a world socialist system is the most important event in world history since the Great October Revolution and a great achievement of the worker class.

The smoke had barely cleared, however, over the villages, towns and cities burned down by the fascists when once again sinister clouds began building up on the peaceful horizon -- harbingers of another war. Strengthening of the position of socialism in the international arena, the attractive force of its ideas and the altered course of world development evoked furious anger on the part of the imperialist powers, particularly the United States and Great Britain. Ruling circles in these countries, seeking by force of arms to preserve and strengthen their shaky position in the world arena, took the path of outright threat and preparation for another war against the USSR and the other socialist nations. The North Atlantic bloc -- the main military-political grouping of imperialist powers -- was organized for this purpose.

Established on 4 April 1949 under U.S. leadership, the NATO bloc became a most serious threat to peace. In hastily forming this sinister military-political organization, U.S. creators of a bloc strategy were pursuing first and foremost two main goals: to possess under their direction a coalition aimed against the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in Europe; to keep Western Europe in a state of military-political dependence and to prevent the creation in this most important region of the world of any other coalitions capable of standing up against the United States and pursuing a policy independent of that country.

The Soviet Union and the other brother countries repeatedly advanced constructive proposals aimed at reaching an agreement with the Western nations on a broad range of international problems, including a pledge by both sides not to resort to war against one another, to conclude a Peace Pact toward this end, and to commence gradual disarmament. These reasonable proposals, however, have continuously been rejected by U.S. ruling circles, rejected in spite of the fact that the proposals of the socialist nations were met with approval by the peace-loving public in all countries of the West.

The Communist and worker parties and governments of the European socialist countries were forced to unite their efforts for the purpose of opposing the aggressive aspirations of imperialism. A Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance was signed in Warsaw on 14 May 1955. It constituted a logical continuation and development of the entire preceding combat alliance, which had been born in the course of numerous class battles and on the battlefields against a common foe, in the struggle for the cause of socialism and communism.

Thus the facts of history indisputably attest that imperialism bears responsibility for the emergence of two opposing military groupings in Europe and on the whole for the splitting of the world into military blocs.

The fighting alliance of the brother socialist countries has been strengthened by the jointly shed blood of the finest sons of our peoples in the struggle against the German-fascist invaders during the years of World War II. For more than a year Soviet servicemen fought on the territory of European nations, carrying out a great liberation mission. They advanced thousands of kilometers, fighting stubborn resistance, liberating brother peoples from the Hitlerite yoke. Tens and hundreds of thousands of them sacrificed their most precious possession -- their lives -- for this cause. More than 600,000 Soviet soldiers died fighting on Polish soil, for example, more than 140,000 in Czechoslovakia, more than 140,000 in Hungary, 69,000 in Romania, and 102,000 in Germany.

Addressing the 26th CPSU Congress, Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and chairman of the State Council of the GDR, stressed: "In the Great Patriotic War 20 million sons and daughters of the heroic Soviet people gave their lives for the victory over Hitlerite fascism, for the liberation and peaceful future of peoples. We, dear comrades, shall never forget that."

Combined units and armies of Yugoslavia, Poland, and Czechoslovakia, and Romanian, Bulgarian, Hungarian and Albanian patriots fought courageously together with the Soviet Army against the fascist invaders. Mongolian forces took active part in the rout of Japan's Kwantung Army.

In the postwar period as well these countries, united by the fraternal bonds of the socialist community, have made every effort to strengthen the unity of their ranks and the fighting brotherhood of their armies. Any attempts to weaken the military unity of the socialist nations merely play into the hands of the imperialist aggressor. "...Standing against the vast front of imperialist powers," stated V. I. Lenin, "we who are fighting imperialism constitute an alliance which requires close military solidarity, and we view any attempts to disrupt this solidarity as a totally impermissible phenomenon, as betrayal of the interests of the struggle against international imperialism" ("Poln. Sobr. Soch." [Complete Works], Vol 40, pp 98-99).

True to this Lenin behest, the fighting men of the brother armies are working tirelessly to strengthen their unity, their fighting friendship, and are keeping their powder dry. Aware of the threat of military attack by the enemies of

peace and socialism, they are perfecting their combat skills and are prepared to repulse any aggression, from whatever quarter.

2. The Warsaw Pact -- Military-Political Defensive Alliance of the Nations of Socialism

The years which have passed since the Warsaw Pact was concluded have fully confirmed the correctness and perspicacity of the policy of the Communist and worker parties and governments of the brother socialist nations, which have united their efforts in defense of the great achievements of socialism against imperialist aggression. The defensive military-political alliance of brother peoples, laboring peoples, created by them on principles of socialist internationalism, has become a reliable guardian of peace and international security.

Today the following countries are members of the Warsaw Pact: the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Romania, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The Warsaw Pact Organization, a genuinely defensive alliance and instrument for preventing war, has for more than 26 years now directed all its activities toward normalizing the international situation and securing favorable external conditions for successfully building socialism and communism.

The brother countries united in the Warsaw Pact display an example of inter-governmental relations free of dictate and national selfishness. Their mutually beneficial cooperation is broadening and deepening year by year. Today it encompasses practically all areas of societal activities: political, economic, ideological, and defense. The socialist countries have proceeded from coordination of individual actions in the international arena to precisely coordinated actions, to elaboration of common political programs and joint determination of their course of foreign policy and strategy.

It is precisely thanks to the efforts of the brother countries and all the world's progressive forces that we have succeeded in breaking out of the tragic cycle whereby peace was merely a brief respite between world wars. For almost four decades now the peoples of the Allied nations and all the peoples of Europe have been living and working in conditions of peace. Of great significance in this truly historic achievement is the Political Consultative Committee (PCC), which is the highest body of the Warsaw Pact and most important center for coordination of its foreign policy activities. Key problems of international affairs, strengthening fraternal ties between socialist countries, strengthening peace, and development of peaceful, mutually beneficial cooperation among nations are examined collectively at meetings of the PCC. Decisions reached at PCC meetings on root political, defense and other matters assume particularly great weight and significance. This is due in large measure to the fact that top party and government leaders of the brother countries take part in its proceedings.

The most recent PCC meeting was held in Warsaw in May 1980. In addition, a meeting of leaders of the Warsaw Pact member nations was held in Moscow in

December 1980. The leaders of the brother nations advanced important proposals aimed at strengthening peace, at détente, and at bringing an end to the arms race.

There has been established within the framework of the Warsaw Pact the practice of holding regular meetings of the Committee of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, at which concrete practical steps toward implementing the initiatives advanced by the Political Consultative Committee are discussed. The most recent meeting of the Committee of Ministers of Foreign Affairs was held in Bucharest on 1-2 December 1981. The participants at the meeting noted the particular danger of the NATO decision to deploy new U.S. medium-range missiles in Western Europe and U.S. decisions to build neutron weapons and an extensive program of strategic rearming with the clearly-expressed goal of achieving military superiority.

The Committee of Ministers of Defense plays an important role in strengthening the fighting alliance of the allied armies. This committee collectively draws up coordinated recommendations and proposals on matters pertaining to further improving the defense capability of the Warsaw Pact countries. The most recent meeting of the Committee of Ministers of Defense of the Warsaw Pact member nations was held in Moscow on 1-4 December 1981.

Recently the Committee of Ministers of Defense, national ministers of defense, general staffs and the Joint Armed Forces Staff, guided by instructions by the Communist and worker parties and coordinated recommendations by the Political Consultative Committee, have accomplished a great deal toward further increasing the defense might of the Warsaw Pact member nations, development of their armies and navies, development and production of combat equipment and weapons.

An important role in strengthening and development of military cooperation among the Warsaw Pact member nations is assigned to joint drills and exercises. In recent years, for example, a number of motorized rifle, tank and artillery subunits of the Central Group of Forces have engaged in joint training in units of the Czechoslovak People's Army, and an equal number of subunits of the CPA have trained in units of the CGF.

Everybody remembers such joint exercises of the brother armies as "Shchit-76" [Shield-76], "Shchit-79," "Bratstvo po oruzhiyu-80" [Brotherhood in Arms-80], and "Soyuz-81" [Alliance-81]. At these exercises troops worked on modes of collective defense of the socialist nations, teamwork and coordination of the allied forces, and control of these forces in complex situation conditions, and decisive maneuver of men and weapons was carried out. Troops at these exercises worked on different missions in various situations. These included defense, march, the meeting engagement, river-crossing operations, and delivering an airborne assault force. Regardless of the code-name of the exercise, and regardless of the types of "engagement" in which the fighting men of the brother armies perfected their skills, they always displayed a high degree of expertise and close coordination.

Another thing is also important. This exercise promoted further ideological-political unification of the men of the brother armies and strengthening of their fighting friendship. In this connection we must note that a big job is being done in the Joint Armed Forces by political agencies of the allied armies. They indoctrinate officers and enlisted men in the traditions of patriotism and internationalism, in a spirit of faithfulness to revolutionary ideas and political vigilance, and form in personnel a strong sense of responsibility for defense both of their own country and of the entire socialist community.

Joint military-scientific work is also carried out on a regular basis, aimed at comprehensive investigation of the specific features of contemporary warfare, at finding the most effective modes of employment of men and weapons, and at forming in command personnel unified views on actions by allied forces.

Joint methods demonstration classes and training conferences are held on the basis of plans prepared by the Joint Command, at which personnel work on the most complex combat training problems and topics, become acquainted with the methods of employment of new technical teaching devices, and exchange know-how on efficient equipping of range facilities, firing ranges, training grounds, and classrooms. And just one methods training conference, for example, representatives of the allied armies demonstrated a total of more than 250 technical teaching devices. The command authorities of each army recommended the best of these devices for practical adoption in training their military personnel.

The process of drawing closer together the armies of the socialist nations of course does not do away with their national specific characteristics and historical features. Close coordination enriches the brother armies with increasingly more sophisticated methods of increasing combat readiness, one another's experience and know-how, and enhances the international influence of the Warsaw Pact Organization as a whole.

In completing presentation of the material on the second topic item, one can note that the fighting alliance is growing stronger with each passing year and is becoming enriched with new experience. This is a result of growing, consistent efforts on the part of the CPSU, the Communist and worker parties of the brother socialist nations, and strict observance and implementation of the principles of socialist internationalism.

3. The 26th CPSU Congress on the Necessity of Further Strengthening the Defense Might of the Warsaw Pact Member Nations

The 26th CPSU Congress gave a profound Marxist-Leninist analysis of the relations between the Soviet Union and the brother socialist countries. The congress emphasized that substantial qualitative changes are taking place in development of cooperation among the nations of the socialist community: their political ties are deepening, economic cooperation is improving, and the pace of socialist integration, based on long-term specific programs, is picking up.

The program of urgent and long-range measures to strengthen peace and the security of peoples, contained in the Central Committee Accountability Report

presented by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, was unanimously approved by the 26th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and by congresses of the other brother Communist and worker parties.

The decisions and documents adopted at the highest forum of Communists of the brother countries instill in our peoples and in the fighting men of the allied armies firm faith in Communist ideals. The proceedings of the congresses persuasively attest to the fact that the most powerful and influential force of the contemporary revolutionary process is world socialism, and particularly the community of Warsaw Pact member nations, which also constitute the main peace-seeking force of this era. "...The military-political defensive alliance of the socialist nations," states the Central Committee Accountability Report to the 26th CPSU Congress, "is faithfully serving the cause of peace. It possesses everything necessary in order reliably to defend the socialist achievements of peoples" ("Materialy XXVI s"yezda KPSS" [Proceedings of the 26th CPSU Congress], page 6).

Yes, the brother socialist nations are peace-loving countries. They need peace for productive labor and for the happiness of the present and future generations.

One must bear in mind, however, that in recent years there has been an aggravation of the international situation through the fault of imperialism. Influential U.S. and NATO circles have embarked upon a course aimed at undermining the military-strategic balance which has been established in the world. U.S. Secretary of Defense C. Weinberger made a quite definite statement in this regard: "We shall spend as much as is required to increase America's military might and to gain superiority over the Soviet Union." U.S. Secretary of State A. Haig made a widely-known cynical statement that "there are things which are more important than peace." U.S. President R. Reagan has agreed with this view in a number of speeches.

Such statements of course are not mere happenstance. This is a thoroughly thought-out White House policy of undermining détente, escalation of world tension, and preparations for war.

By the middle of the 1970's U.S. military expenditures were five times those on the eve of World War II. The U.S. military budget for the 1982 fiscal year totals 226.3 billion dollars. U.S. ruling circles plan to spend an astronomical sum on the military in the next five years -- approximately 1.5 trillion dollars. Military budgets are also growing excessively in the other NATO countries.

With the present world balance of power such a course of policy is nothing other than political adventurism. Nevertheless Washington is stubbornly pursuing this policy. The U.S. administration is creating crisis situations and focal points where the situation is dangerously explosive, and is crudely interfering in the internal affairs of other countries, widely employing methods of international terrorism.

In whatever part of the world "hot spots" occur, the hand of aggressive imperialist circles is inevitably to be found, especially that of U.S. imperialism.

The United States is waging an undeclared war against Afghanistan and is rattling sabers in the Near East. It is guiding the predatory policy of the Israeli aggressors and is giving them full support within the framework of so-called "strategic cooperation." Such antipopular regimes as those in El Salvador and Chile are being propped up with the money and arms of U.S. imperialism. The high-handed South African racists are engaged in brigandage and plunder with the direct complicity of the United States.

Washington is pushing a buildup of NATO power, is seeking to expand the sphere of actions of this aggressive bloc, and is establishing more and more new military bases on foreign soil.

Ignoring the lessons of its own history, the United States is encouraging the rebirth of Japanese militarism. It is helping strengthen China's military potential, counting on utilizing it against the Soviet Union for its imperialist aims.

Particularly dangerous is the program calling for further buildup of U.S. strategic nuclear arsenals, announced by the White House at the beginning of October 1981. The U.S. President did not even attempt to conceal the fact that this program is directed against the Soviet Union and the nations of the socialist community.

Also leading to an increased risk of outbreak of a military conflict is the U.S. decision calling for full-scale production of neutron weapons, weapons which the Pentagon plans to deploy primarily in the European theater of military operations. They are planning to prevail upon the West Europeans to perceive neutron weapons as a conventional [obychnoye; also translates as "ordinary, customary"], allegedly "defensive" weapon, although we know that experts are of the opinion that several neutron warheads are sufficient to destroy every living thing in a large city.

These actions, in light of the well-known U.S. Presidential Directive 59, attest to the fact that the U.S. administration is continuing to nurture dangerous schemes of "limited nuclear war" in Europe. But this would be a total catastrophe for Europe. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev gave a fitting reply to those who are preparing for such a war in his responses to question put by the editors of the West German magazine DER SPIEGEL. He stated outright that there can be no "limited" nuclear war. If a nuclear war erupts, be it in Europe or elsewhere, it would inevitably and irrevocably assume a worldwide character. So let those who are perhaps planning to light a nuclear powder magazine, emphasized Leonid Il'ich, while themselves remaining at a safe distance, not harbor any illusions.

Comrade L. I. Brezhnev returned to this question in his speech during his visit to the Federal Republic of Germany. "We consider the situation alarming," he stated. "A major power in the West is attempting to continue escalating the arms race. We have here the adoption of new, gigantic programs calling for the deployment of strategic and other weapons, and we have here the commencement of production of nuclear weapons.... There have even been statements to the effect that 'limited nuclear wars' are a possibility and even almost expedient....

As a result, the possibility of employment of nuclear weapons in the 'European theater of military operations' is being elevated to the rank of military doctrine. It is as if Europe, in which hundreds of millions of people live, is already doomed to become a theater of military operations."

Of particular importance in the present complex international situation are close solidarity and unity of actions by the socialist nations. Imperialism is intensifying political and economic pressure on them, is attempting to interfere in their internal affairs, and is waging unchecked psychological warfare. Recently the United States has appreciably stepped up its campaign of vicious attacks against the Republic of Cuba. Utilizing absolutely groundless pretexts, it is escalating tension around this country and is outright threatening it with "punitive actions."

Reactionary forces were counting particularly heavily on the events in the Polish People's Republic. Domestic and external counterrevolution sought to destroy the socialist system in Poland, to restore a bourgeois order in that country, to detach it from the socialist community, and thus to change the results of World War II and postwar development. Resolute to rebuff antisocialist forces, however, which were openly endeavoring to seize power, grew stronger in the Polish United Workers' Party and within the broad worker masses. Events of great importance have taken place in the Polish People's Republic. In conformity with the provisions of the constitution, the State Council of the PPR placed the entire country under martial law. A Military Council of National Salvation, headed by W. Jaruzelski, was formed.

The head of the Military Council of National Salvation declared that the measures which have been adopted aim at creating conditions for Poland to recover from its crisis situation, to defend rule of law, and to restore public order.

The nations of the socialist community are interlinked by living, indissoluble bonds. Strengthening of these bonds and close coordination in building and defending socialism are fully in conformity with both the national and international interests of the brother peoples and the interests of world peace. "And let nobody doubt," stated the Central Committee Accountability Report to the 26th CPSU Congress, "our common resolve to secure our interests and defend the socialist achievements of peoples!" ("Materialy XXVI s"yezda KPSS," page 10).

The Soviet Army and Navy are living embodiment of socialist internationalism. Their combat power reliably serves the interests of defense of socialist achievements, peace and social progress. Aware of the continuing growth of military preparations on the part of imperialism, Soviet citizens and army and navy personnel are doing everything to strengthen our fraternal defensive alliance and to maintain at a suitable level the combat readiness of the Joint Armed Forces.

Unquestionably the Soviet Armed Forces comprise the foundation of the combat power of the Warsaw Pact Organization, as they have at their disposal all modern means of warfare and possess enormous experience and advanced military

science. They possess strategic nuclear weapons, which serve as a reliable shield protecting the world socialist system. All the branches of service and combat arms are armed with potent modern weapons.

There is no higher honor for the fighting men of our army and navy than to live up to the great confidence on the part of the party and people with selfless military labor and constant readiness to carry out difficult combat missions.

The new training year is presently picking up pace in the Soviet Armed Forces. The defenders of the homeland have entered the new year inspired by the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the documents of the November (1981) CPSU Central Committee Plenum, and the Sixth Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 10th Convocation. They are filled with resolve worthily to honor an event of great political importance -- the 60th anniversary of establishment of the USSR, which will be celebrated in December 1982.

In the new training year Soviet servicemen will be carrying out large and complex tasks, will be working persistently to increase the vigilance and combat readiness of each and every subunit, regiment and warship, to improve field, air, missile and sea proficiency on the part of personnel, and to strengthen military discipline. The socialist competition which is in progress in honor of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the USSR is also subordinated to this goal. The personnel of a missile unit (Lt Col I. Shelestov, commanding), a twice-decorated guards tank regiment (Col V. Parshikov, commanding), a red-banner guards bomber regiment (Gds Lt Col V. Sadikov, commanding), and a nuclear-powered missile-armed submarine (Capt 1st Rank V. Zhuravlev, commanding) issued an appeal to raise its banner even higher. Their patriotic initiative was examined and approved by the military councils and political directorates of the branches of service. It has evoked wide response among army and navy personnel.

The USSR Ministry of Defense and the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, having examined the pledges and appeals of the personnel of leading units and a nuclear-powered missile-armed submarine, voice their approval and call upon all military personnel actively to engage in socialist competition in honor of the glorious USSR jubilee, under the slogan "Reliable Defense of the Peaceful Labor of the Soviet People!"

Upon completing presentation of the material on this subject, the instructor can present the conclusion that the great socialist community is marching in the vanguard of world progress and the struggle of peoples for peace and freedom, and is exerting increasing influence on the future of all mankind. There is no force which can impede its additional successes. "We are living and working in a complex international situation," noted Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, speaking at a reception at the Kremlin Palace of Congresses in honor of the 64th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. "The dangerous schemes and adventuristic policy of aggressive imperialist circles create a threat to peace and the security of peoples."

"In these conditions the might of the Soviet State and its socialist allies, as well as our firm, consistent policy of peace and cooperation with all sober-minded, peace-loving people is increasingly more clearly representing one of the main guarantees of preservation of world peace."

The fighting men of the brother armies, improving their combat and political training, strengthening and developing the fighting alliance, are reliably guarding the great achievements of socialism and the immortal cause of the October Revolution.

During the hours allocated to independent study, students should study V. I. Lenin's "Speech at a Political Rally of the Warsaw Revolutionary Regiment on 2 August 1918" ("Poln. Sobr. Soch.," Vol 37, pp 24-26); L. I. Brezhnev's report "CPSU Central Committee Report to the 26th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Current Party Tasks in the Area of Domestic and Foreign Policy" ("Materialy XXVI s"yezda KPSS," pp 3-11, 26-31, 66); the fifth chapter of the textbook for political instruction classes entitled "Na strazhe Rodiny" [Guarding the Homeland] (Voenizdat, 1978).

The following topic items can be discussed at the seminar class (in the discussion): 1. Birth of the fighting alliance of socialist nations; 2. The Warsaw Pact -- reliable shield of revolutionary achievements; 3. Intensification of aggressive preparations by imperialism at the contemporary stage; 4. The 26th CPSU Congress on strengthening the defense might of the brother socialist nations; 5. Worthily carrying out one's patriotic and internationalist duty and being in a continuous state of combat readiness.

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Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 2, Jan 82 (signed to press 5 Jan 82) pp 1-2

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CSO: 1801/196

ARMED FORCES

POLITICAL WORK DURING 'ZAPAD-81' TRAINING EXERCISE

In the Airborne Troops

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 2, Jan 82 (signed to press 5 Jan 82)
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[Article by Maj Gen S. Smirnov, chief of the Airborne Troops Political Department:
"Exerting Vigorous and Constant Influence"]

[Text] The personnel of the Airborne Troops, like all Soviet servicemen, are laboring persistently on the fulfillment of the demands of the 26th Party Congress and the tasks set by the USSR defense minister for the new training year. The decisions of the November (1981) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the 6th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet have generated in servicemen of the Airborne Troops a new surge of political and professional activeness and the ardent desire to mark the year of the Soviet Union's 60th anniversary with the scaling of loftier peaks in improving combat skill, enhancing combat readiness and strengthening discipline and organization. Socialist competition under the slogan "Reliable Defense for the Soviet People's Peaceful Labor!" has been launched in the formations, units and subunits.

The personnel of the Airborne Troops is scaling new heights of combat skill by relying daily on the firm basis of knowledge, skills and experience previously accumulated. In the past training year--the year of the 26th CPSU Congress--the servicemen, by their persistent work, achieve quite good results in improving tactical weapon training and the quality of field and airborne assault landing skill. The very fact that many servicemen were awarded orders and medals for their successes in combat and political training speaks volumes.

The personnel who took part in the "Zapad-81" exercises honorably withstood a stern test of their ideological, combat and moral and psychological maturity. Under complex conditions, within extremely tight schedules, troops and combat equipment were landed from modern military transport aircraft on restricted landing sites on unfamiliar terrain, operating at all stages of the difficult "battle" in a tactically skilled, bold and resolute manner, displaying courage, resourcefulness and mutual assistance, the Airborne Troops rapidly attacked the "enemy" and successfully fulfilled the task set them and obtained a high assessment from the exercises' leader, Mar SU D. F. Ustinov, USSR defense minister. The attainment of success was greatly promoted by active, purposeful party-political work.

It is not for nothing that troop exercises are called the best school of courage and combat skill. It is precisely at such exercises, in a dynamic and complex situation made as close as possible to real combat conditions, that the strength and power of the troops' combat potential are tested as a firm fusion of a high degree of technical equippedness, military skill and adamant morale. It is precisely here that we obtain the fullest answers to questions concerning the kind of stock of ideological, combat and moral and psychological staunchness with which servicemen should be prepared right now so that they can fulfill their duty in the best way in real battle and questions of how party political work at various stages of an assault landing should be organized in this connection. That is why the experience of political educational and organizational work accumulated at the "Zapad-81" exercises is a very valuable asset of ours and deserves to be considered in depth and introduced into the daily practice of combat and political training.

What does this experience teach us? What lessons should be drawn from it and what must be adopted in the future? In pondering these questions you inevitably reach the following conclusions.

The high degree of combat activity, inimitable assertive impulse, the desire to fulfill a combat order come what may, the military skill and the moral and psychological staunchness displayed by the personnel at the exercises were the result of the large amount of preliminary work performed by the commanders, political organs, staffs, party and Komsomol organizations, and were not the result of sudden inspiration. The result of work in whose process tasks of training and educating the servicemen were constantly and comprehensively resolved, especially in the preparatory period, and the efforts of the Airborne Troops' command, political section and staff and the subunits' commanders, staffs and party and political apparatus were united and coordinated. This was successfully achieved thanks to the timely planning of party-political work for the stages of the forthcoming exercises and the precise definition of its content and special orientation in all echelons.

The dispatch of a large group of generals and officers from the Airborne Troops' political section and directorate to render practical aid to the commanders, political workers, and party aktiv in training the personnel for their crucial test has fully justified itself. The generals and officers took a most active part in instructing commanders and political workers and preparing and holding party committee and party bureau sessions, party and Komsomol meetings and meetings of servicemen. Everywhere the meetings took place in an atmosphere of business-like discussion of the forthcoming tasks and an active, creative quest for ways of successfully resolving them. This has promoted the servicemen's patriotic enthusiasm and high combat morale, comprehending in depth the importance and significance of the "Zapad-81" exercises as a concrete account of the party, government and people of their readiness and ability to reliably defend the motherland's state interests, the communists, Komsomol members and all Airborne Troop servicemen were imbued with even greater responsibility and burned with the desire to display genuine combat skill.

So, they put forward the watchword: "Acting in a guardsmanlike, frontline manner, as in real battle!" The initiative displayed by the collective of the company of guards under Snr Lt V. Boltikov who suggested launching competition under the slogan "Excellent fulfillment of the tasks at the exercises is our answer to the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress" met with ardent support in all subunits. The servicemen

adopted stepped-up socialist pledges and actively joined in the struggle for the excellent rehearsal of every task, the surpassing of combat norms for tying down [to paratroop platforms], loading, and untying weapons and equipment and preparing them for battle and for the irreproachable execution of marches, flights and airborne assaults and the accurate striking of targets with the first shots.

To ensure that the lofty moral impulse is not a brief spiritual flicker but burns with the steady flame of enthusiasm and selfless labor, the servicemen need constant ideological support, so to speak. Mindful of this, all political workers paid close attention to the organization of ideological work and sought by every means to make it profound and closely connected with life and the tasks resolved by the personnel. The troops' leading personnel were enlisted to active participation in this organization. Members of the Airborne Troops' political section lecture group, Lt Gen V. Kostylev and Lt Gen N. Guskov, Col V. Ivonin and Col L. Starchenko and other comrades, read the Airborne Troops' interesting lectures on the communist party's concern for the consolidation of the country's defense might, and on the 26th CPSU Congress demands on the USSR Armed Forces' combat readiness and reports on the international situation. Commanders and political workers regularly delivered lectures and reports and held talks, conducted political hours and political information sessions which shed light on the themes of the need for unremitting vigilance and a high degree of combat readiness and the essence and real military danger of imperialism's aggressive preparations in Europe, the Near East and other parts of the world, and explained the goals and tasks of the "Zapad-81" exercises.

The general political day entitled "Reliably Defending the Gains of Socialism" helped to form Soviet patriotism in the servicemen and to sharpen their sense of responsibility for the motherland's security. Taking part in it alongside the units' leading personnel were Hero of Socialist Labor, weaver A. Markyavichene and lathe operator P. Zagorskikh. It must be said that meetings with working people and representatives of local party and Soviet organs and the discussion in the subunits of the addresses to the participants in the exercises from the workers of the Minsk Tractor Plant and Great Patriotic War veterans living on the territory of the Belorussian SSSR, and the statements and letters from the servicemen's parents enabled the Airborne Troops to gain a deeper sense of the social significance and state importance of their military labor, their vital connection with the people and the peoples' ardent love for the motherland's defenders.

You should have seen the enormous attention with which servicemen listened at a meeting to a speech delivered by Mariya Demyanovna Mukhina, the mother of a gunner operator in one of the subunits. "I am proud," she said, "that my son is serving among such glorious troops. But I am doubly pleased to know that he has been granted the honor of taking part in exercises on the territory of Belorussia where, during the Great Patriotic War, I fought the enemy in a partisan detachment. We mothers have hopes for our sons and we believe that the combat traditions of older generations will live on in your deeds." In those minutes each man probably remembered his own mother and mentally promised that he would justify her trust.

Soirees of combat collaboration between the Airborne Troops and military transport aircraft pilots, and the exchange of letters and appeals with airmen and motorized riflemen of the unit with which they were to collaborate in combat training noticeably heartened the men and seemed to add to their strength. In these letters, the

comrades-in-arms assured each other that they would fulfill their tasks in exemplary fashion and would not let each other down.

In displaying concern for ensuring constant political influence on all servicemen without exception, the political workers approached most painstakingly the deployment of forces and of the agitation and propaganda work of communists. The officers of the Airborne Troops' political section were attached to battalion and company primary party organizations with a view to enhancing their militancy as centers of daily ideological education activity. Experienced political workers treated their assigned tasks responsibly. I should like to note in particular the exceptionally conscientious and fruitful work of Lt Col V. Pogorelov and Lt Col N. Goryachev.

Lt Col Pogorelov, communicating daily with battalion party organization secretaries, Sr Lts V. Kalinin, N. Bondar and Lt Ye. Surkov, helped them to plan in detail and to organize in practice the communists' vigorous, vital work with the servicemen and reminded the subunit commanders and political workers of the need to consider the educational aspects in summing up competition results. He set them a personal example of how to approach a soldier on an individual basis. How to study people's moods and conduct easy, cordial conversations with them. Officer Goryachev acted in a similar way. The political section representative held a number of demonstration sessions with company deputy commanders for political affairs on organizing party political work during a raid, in offensive and defense operations and at an airfield and prepared an instruction leaflet for assault personnel.

In these party organizations as, indeed, in others, there was not a single CPSU member or candidate member who did not receive a specific party assignment. Aircraft party group organizers and Komsomol group organizers and assault wave team agitators [agitatory desantnykh potokov] were appointed from among the most experienced communists and Komsomol activists and trained and supplied with the necessary materials for their work. Some party members conducted talks and delivered reports, prepared and held Lenin readings, courage lessons and thematic soirees, others compiled visual agitation materials, mobile Lenin corners, and competition display screens, while still others produced radio, photographic and wall newspapers and combat leaflets and printed news flashes about servicemen who had distinguished themselves in training. Many were instructed to render aid to their young fellow servicemen in mastering weapons and equipment and increasing their physical tempering.

The majority of party members demonstrated in practice their vanguard role as active political fighters, set examples of military zeal and were a reliable support of commanders in the struggle for high intensiveness and effectiveness of combat training and for strong discipline. But there were also blunders and omissions, of course.

At the start of the preparatory period party-political work at company level and in terms and crews left something to be desired. Its organizers--company deputy commanders for political affairs and mostly recent school graduates--did not yet have sufficient experience. We held meetings with them, the experienced political worker Col L. Starchenko delivered the report "Organization of Party Political Work in the Company in a Combat Situation." The officers B. Pritolyuk, Yu. Mikhaylov and N. Vasilyev, who had earlier participated in major troop exercises and maneuvers, shared their experience with the young comrades.

In the preparatory period the meeting participants heard instructive reports on the problems of carrying out party-political work when marching to embarkation airports, in concentration areas, during the flight to the landing place and in the process of capturing a bridgehead in the "enemy's" rear. Practical exercises were conducted with them on planning work for various kinds of combat, instructing the aktiv.

Explaining the combat task, organizing party information and compiling political reports, as well as exercises with models of the terrain and involving the use of maps and charts, during which various situations which can evolve after landing and in the process of fulfilling combat training tasks were examined with the help of staff officers. These meetings, reinforced by object training on the spot and by assistance for company deputy commanders for political affairs provided by their senior comrades, had an appreciable effect on improving their work at all stages of the exercises.

It is well known that it is not enough to inspire people to undertake something difficult and to fire them with the desire to cope with it; it is also necessary to teach them and arm them with a sum of knowledge, skills and qualities. I have already said that all the members of landing forces responded to a man to the appeal to act in a frontline manner on the exercises. But many of them did not quite have a clear idea of what this means in practice. The commanders and political workers undoubtedly acted correctly in asking Great Patriotic War veterans to reveal to servicemen the meaning of acting in a frontline manner. Guards Lt Col (Ret) K. G. Pershikov, who commanded a paratroop battalion during the war and participated in a combat landing in the enemy's rear, the former guardsmen and members of landing forces A. I. Baranov, N. A. Mironenko, V. P. Doroshenko, P. F. Fedotov, A. S. Korshun, G. V. Kulenko, N. K. Nemyrya and other veterans gave full and detailed advice. In a frontline manner means decisively, boldly, skillfully, surpassing the enemy in combat tactics and accuracy of fire, imposing your will on him. Secrecy, stealth and suddenness of action are indispensable conditions for the success of a landing operation. Sometimes the garrulity of even one man, excessive noise or failure to observe the rules of camouflage in concentration areas can cost very dearly in combat. Nighttime is the ally of a member of a landing force, and therefore he must learn now to find his bearings in total darkness and act just as smartly and quickly by night as by day. He also needs strong physical tempering, strength, endurance, intrepidity and courage, for he has to negotiate ditches, abatis in woods, water barriers and bogs and engage in hand-to-hand fighting with the enemy and in single combat with tanks.

The word of war veterans who have learned the difficult science of winning from their own experience is always authoritative. As a result, during intensive training, the servicemen sought to develop the necessary qualities and ability in themselves. The training was organized with regard to the well-known pedagogic principle which states that it is impossible to foster a courageous person without placing him in conditions under which he is forced to display courage, with regard to the experience of wartime landing operations. Commanders and political workers sorrowed a very great deal from Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's book "Malaya Zemlya," including the idea of drawing up an instruction leaflet for members of landing forces and the experience of comprehensive personnel training to act under difficult, nonstandard conditions and in extreme circumstances.

Exercises were conducted day and night. During these exercises, all servicemen were trained in the nimble negotiation of log obstacles, water-filled ditches, wire entanglements and seats of fire and had tanks roll over them as they lay in trenches. During training sessions in the parachute camp, they rehearsed methods of quickly boarding and finding their places in aircraft [vozdushnyy korabl] and landing skills.

In short, the training load was exceptionally great, and it meant a very great deal at that time that commanders, political workers and communists everywhere inspired servicemen to surmount difficulties by their personal example and ardent words and maintained a competitive spirit among the landing force members. The servicemen's initiative, enterprise, quick-wittedness and courage were, as a rule, taken into account and encouraged when the competition was summed up after each exercise or training session.

Investigating the training process every day, political organs and party organizations took prompt measures to arm personnel with progressive experience and to eliminate shortcomings. Here an important role was played by scientific-practical and military-technical conferences, military theoretical talks and seminars with officers, the military-technical conference "to gain excellent mastery of landing techniques," say, which was prepared by the communists B. Yaroshenko, V. Vyshinskiy and Yu. Kondratyuk in conjunction with the unit's Komsomol committee, considerably enriched servicemen with knowledge.

The value of any party political measure is determined by its topicality and by the real benefit which it brings to people. In this regard, I heard only positive comments from personnel about the scientific-practical conference "Ways and Means of Achieving High Effectiveness of Combat Operations by an Airborne Landing Force under Modern Conditions," conducted with officers. The reports and speeches by the most experienced commanders and political workers revealed in detail all the factors which determine success, set forth scientific recommendations and creatively analyzed the practice of the war years and of the "Dnepr," "Dvina" and "Neman" troop exercises. The participants gained a clearer idea of the conditions on the upcoming exercises, as well as clear recommendations on organizing management, cooperation and party political work.

The individual and group talks which leading personnel and members of the unit's methods council had with commanders of battalions, companies, batteries and forward landing detachments and with staff officers on knowing the provisions of the regulations, instructions and functional duties and the instructional-methodical, demonstration and tactical drill exercises and special exercises using models of the terrain were also of undoubted benefit. Fulfilling the instructions of the party bureau, foremost officers A. Somov, V. Vedyakin, A. Besspalov and others shared with their comrades their experience of the timely and clear setting of tasks for subordinates and of organizing cooperation among heterogeneous forces and controlling them in combat. Sessions of the party committee and party bureau heard reports by many communist officers on their personal readiness for exercises and for political-educational work with subordinates. All this helped to enhance the practical skills and the sense of responsibility for command personnel.

Current party information--both from above to below and from below to above--was also of great significance. What was important here, apart from the well-thought-out

placement and clear briefing of the aktiv, was the fact that commanders, political workers and communists made use of any opportunity to contact people and to study the state of affairs in subunits, the political and moral state of the personnel and the sentiments, needs and requirements of members of landing forces. I could cite dozens of examples where, following signals from party organization secretaries or party committee and bureau members, urgent measures were taken, say, to improve the field and landing training of young officers, where the subjects of propagandists' speeches were rearranged in accordance with the wishes and requests of landing force members, and where effective training methods were made common property and examples of skill, courage and fortitude were popularized. In particular, leaflets on servicemen who had distinguished themselves and containing reports on the heroic places over which they were flying to the landing area and instruction leaflets on the procedure after landing in various situations were produced and disseminated very promptly.

We comprehensively discussed the experience and lessons of the exercises with commanders and chiefs of unit political organs and outlined measures to introduce and develop everything that had been verified in practice, but the interests of the matter demand that this experience lives and functions not only in staffs and political organs but also in subunits and works every day to enhance their combat readiness. Real concern is shown for this, for example, in the battalion commanded by Guard Capt A. Bepalov. During training and exercises active use is made here of the proven forms and means of shaping responsibility, combat activeness and high moral, political and psychological qualities in personnel. The commander, his deputy for political affairs and the party organization carry out differentiated political educational work with different categories of servicemen. The most distinguished participants in the "Zapad-81" exercises address young servicemen and tell them how to achieve success in a complex "combat" situation. Experience-swapping soirees are held. By their example of personal zeal in training and their invocatory words communists help commanders daily to prepare members of landing forces for bold, decisive action.

But, unfortunately, at some official conferences and party meetings the matter went no further than talk of the need to adopt the experience of the exercises. In certain subunits, the activeness of the party organizations diminished, and the communists' political influence over people grew weaker.

Of course, the objection might reasonably be raised that it is impossible to work constantly with such tension and intensity. It is a question of something else--the essence, style and methods of work, so that the party's influence over personnel is just as clear and effective on company, battalion and regiment tactical exercises. It is important that problems of improving officers' professional skill, field, tactical-firing and airborne landing training and the moral and psychological training of personnel are resolved just as concretely and effectively in everyday practice, too, through the joint efforts of commanders, political workers and party organizations, for there is no denying that in the so-called hurly-burly of everyday affairs some of our communist leaders do not find the time for live contact with servicemen or to address them on a topical political theme. It sometimes happens that representatives of higher political organs and staffs, when visiting units, confine their activity just to the monitoring and checking execution and gathering information and do not get down to people and subunits. Sometimes certain military

collectives for long periods do not make use of forms of emotional and moral influence upon people such as meetings with working people and Great Patriotic War veterans and correspondence with servicemen's parents. Party organizations must promptly rectify these and other shortcomings.

In his brilliant speech at the November (1981) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev emphasized that the Central Committee attaches tremendous significance to the militancy of primary party organizations. "The atmosphere and mood in labor collectives and, thus, production indicators," he said, "largely depend on how communists work. Every communist in his own sector--and there are almost 18 million of us--must devote all his strength, experience and knowledge to seeking reserves and increasing labor efficiency and set a worthy example of labor selflessness."

These party instructions are a guide to action for every CPSU member and candidate member in the Airborne Landing Forces. It is precisely communists who must continue to set the tone in the struggle to implement the historic decisions of the 26th Party Congress and the November (1981) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee by making creative use of the experience accumulated on the "Zapad-81" exercises we can and must enhance the militancy of party organizations and increase the influence of party political work on all aspects of the personnel's life and service and on the qualitative resolution of the great and complex tasks in the new training year, and there is no doubt that commanders, political organs, staffs, party and Komsomol organizations and all servicemen who are members of landing forces will persistently seek to ensure that in the year of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation, the troops' combat readiness, discipline and organization meet modern demands and the interests of the reliable defense of the Soviet people's peaceful, creative labor.

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In the Belorussian Military District

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 2, Jan 82 (signed to press 5 Jan 82)
pp 29-34

[Article by Col N. Yermolayev, chief of the Propaganda and Agitation Department and deputy chief of the Political Directorate of the Red Banner Belorussian Military District: "Creating Combat Morale"]

[Text] When visiting the troops political directorate officers unfailingly go where combat skill is forged and honed--tactical exercise fields and tan training areas, test ranges and firing ranges. At present, in the strenuous period of combat training, we can see particularly clearly the great eagerness and persistence with which servicemen engage in practicing exercises and performance standards and how they strive to master weapons and combat equipment to perfection and seek to fulfill worthily the socialist pledges adopted for the new training year--the year of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation.

They are helped here by the high combat morale created in troop collectives by purposeful and active work by commanding officers, political workers, party and Komsomol

activists and propagandists. In the field, they operate in a frontline manner, using all available forms for exerting a mobilizing influence on people and the experience of agitation and propaganda work accumulated in the course of previous exercises, particularly large-scale exercises like "Zapad-81."

Today, I should like to return to those memorable days of the exercises and ponder once again the ways in which people were instilled with powerful energy and combat morale which raised and thrust them forward in a united, selfless impulse come what may to fulfill the combat tasks set the troops.

The mobilization of the personnel to perform exemplary actions--that is how, briefly, we can formulate the task facing the unit and formation commanders, political workers and the propagandist aktiv at the time. Mass agitation work has performed in several directions. Above all, the propaganda workers' efforts were focused on the in-depth explanation of the materials of the 26th CPSU Congress and the Soviet people's successes in fulfilling the party's plans. It was important to achieve a situation where every serviceman was imbued with a sense of responsibility for the matter assigned to him--vigilantly standing guard over this great motherland.

Much was also done to expose the aggressive policy of imperialism and show the wide-scale military preparations launched by the United States and the NATO countries and the real threat these militarist aspirations present to the cause of peace and socialism. The task was to make those taking part in the exercises aware of the full complexity and acuteness of the present international situation, remind them once more of the need to be vigilant and ready to repel any aggression, wherever it may come from, and stress that the "Zapad-81" exercises were a serious check of the combat readiness of each subunit and each serviceman.

Questions of shaping in the personnel moral-political and psychological staunchness and the readiness to fulfill combat training tasks in any situation were also the focus of attention.

It is well known that the maneuvers were held on heroic Belorussian soil drenched in the blood of Soviet patriots, in places where very fierce fighting against the enemy took place during the Great Patriotic War. The commanders, political workers, and staff and nonstaff propaganda workers used the most diverse forms for educating the servicemen in glorious combat traditions, organized meetings with Great Patriotic War veterans, thematic soirees, and tours of sites of the Soviet people's combat glory.

Great effectiveness and impact in ideological and ideological education work, as is well known, depends to a decisive degree on the standard of the propaganda worker cadres' theoretical and methodological knowledge. In the period of preparation for the exercises, the district's political directorate and political organs organized work with all categories of the ideological aktiv under a carefully elaborated plan. Seminars with propaganda workers were held everywhere. For instance, a seminar of this kind was held at the Rogachevskaya Orders of Suvorov and Kutuzov Motorized Infantry Division named for the Belorussian Supreme Soviet. The chief of the division's political section delivered a report entitled "Propaganda Workers' Tasks in Explaining the Military-Political Situation to the Personnel and Mobilizing the Servicemen to Fulfill the Exercises' Tasks in an Exemplary Manner." Those taking part in the seminar-conference heard reports entitled "The Military-Political

Situation in West Europe" and "The Organization, Armament and Operational Tactics of the Probable Adversary." There was an exchange of experience of work under field conditions. Officers N. Kolosov, N. Alekseyev, I. Kuznetsov and others delivered interesting co-reports. In conclusion, the division commander delivered a speech. He described the features of the situation in which the servicemen would have to operate.

In the preparatory period in many units the experience of organizing party political work during the fighting near Novorossiysk was studied once again with the political workers and propaganda workers and there was a discussion of comrade L. I. Brezhnev's book "Malaya Zemlya."

To expand the opportunities for ideological influence on the personnel during the exercises, the subunits increased the number of political information and agitation workers, their numbers were trebled. There were agitation workers in all teams, crews and squads.

Of course, we realized that an increase in the number of nonstaff propaganda workers would have little effect unless they were properly trained. That is why seminars and instruction classes were held in all units with political information and agitation workers and they were armed with methods of conducting conversations and collecting operational information and were set specific tasks.

The district's political directorate prepared over 60 brochures, instruction booklets and leaflets and sent them to the troops preparing for the exercises. From these brochures activists were able to get information relating to the history of Belorussia and the regions where the training battles were to take place and the successes of these regions' workers in fulfilling the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the instruction booklets described ways of conducting combat operations, the work methods of leading specialists, security specialists and so forth. Blank sheets for use as field news sheets, news flash leaflets and information bulletins were produced in the necessary quantity and dispatched to the units and subunits. All this subsequently provided good assistance in the work of propaganda workers, particularly agitation workers. Almost every one of them had files with abundant reference material.

On the eve of the exercises a large detachment of lecturers left for the formations and units, including lecturers from the Soviet Army and Navy main political directorate, the ground forces political directorate and local party organs who had traveled to the district. Speeches by experienced propaganda workers on topical questions of the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy, the present-day international situation and military building were of great benefit.

The district's political directorate and political organs also set up agitation teams. Members of 11 such teams addressed servicemen on the eve of and during the exercises. In addition, Artistes of the Soviet Army's A. V. Aleksandrov Twice Red Banner Academy Song and Dance Ensemble and of the ensembles of the Red Banner Belorussian and Baltic Military Districts and the Twice Red Banner Baltic Fleet and Artistes of the popular Khoroshki Vocal and Choreographic Ensemble and of a number of other creative collectives were guests of the participants in the exercises. They gave more than 100 concerts, and qualified lecturers, writers and Great Patriotic War veterans appeared, as a rule, before each one.

Many other questions were also resolved successfully on the eve of the exercises. We did not divide them into main and secondary questions, for we realized that everything is important in the preparations for such major exercises. We carefully studied the requirements for technical propaganda facilities and at once took measures to satisfy them in full. We supplied all subunits with transistor radios. Hundreds of copies of training and feature films were selected and sent to the region of the exercises. Newspapers were regularly delivered to subunits.

The political directorate elaborated and sent to the troops topics for political hours for the entire duration of the exercises. Reviews of the military-political situation in Europe and information on the armies of the probable enemy were prepared and distributed to units. Later we repeatedly saw for ourselves that the careful preparations for the exercises enabled us to organize ideological work efficiently and to a high standard.

...The hour of trials was approaching. The troops had moved into the prescribed regions. Strenuous preparations for combat operations had begun. The center of mass agitation work had moved into the field. The work already begun in the places where the men are permanently stationed had to be continued--all forms and means were to be used to create an enthusiastic mood and to foster high morale in the personnel.

At this time the servicemen were addressed by Arm Gen Ye. Ivanovskiy, commander of the Red Banner Belorussian Military District; Col Gen A. Debalyuk, member of the Military Council and Chief of the District Political Directorate; and other generals and staff officers from the district. Their speeches, carefully prepared, well-conceived in terms of subject matter and closely linked with the tasks of individual collectives, exerted a great mobilizing influence on the servicemen.

We devoted a lot of attention to the organization of political hours. Commanders and political workers conducted them as a rule. And representatives of local party and soviet organs participated in them in a number of military collectives. In the "N" artillery unit, for example, the subunit personnel were addressed by I. Naumchik, Vitebskiy Obkom Secretary; G. Shmygo, Belorussian CP Central Committee lecturer; and railroad fitter G. Danilin. They spoke about the Belorussian people's heroic history and labor achievements and urged the artillerymen to reliably defend the Soviet people's peaceful labor.

The prompt political briefing of personnel during the exercises was also one of the most important tasks. In addition to the daily 15- or 20-minute political information sessions, collective listening to the latest radio news was organized regularly. The issuing of news bulletins was arranged for servicemen who were fulfilling combat tasks at the time. The method of preparing them was simple: the most important items of news broadcast by radio were noted down on special forms and posted up in a prescribed place. During marches and in the midst of combat operations news bulletins were passed from crew to crew and from team to team, and every serviceman could read them.

Wide use was made of newspapers with a view to informing personnel. For instance, the district newspaper VO SLAVU RODINY printed topical items every day under the rubrics "Keep Your Powder Dry, Troops!", "Our Military-Political Commentary" and

"War on Bourgeois Ideology." These items talked in a well-argued way, on the basis of rich statistical and factual material, about the military preparations of imperialist powers and their aggressive aspirations and ideological sabotage against the socialist community countries and stressed the need to maintain high vigilance in these conditions. These materials were utilized widely by propagandists and agitators in work with people.

Appeals from the district's military council and Great Patriotic War veterans to participants in the exercises were also disseminated among the troops. Propagandists used them skillfully to create high combat morale and mobilize servicemen in the struggle for an excellent result every day. Rallies and meetings of personnel were held everywhere in units and subunits. Officers, ensigns, men and sergeants spoke at these meetings of their firm resolve to respond in deeds to the warm words of the instructions [nakazy] addressed to them.

A large number of letters reached the region of the exercises in which friends and relatives, veterans of war and labor and distinguished people sent their good wishes to the servicemen. For instance, the personnel of the regiment whose list forever includes the name of Hero of the Soviet Union, Pvt Petr Ponomarev, received a letter from his mother Aleksandra Grigoryevna instructing the servicemen to be worthy of the honor of frontline men. The letter was read out to the personnel. You should have seen how attentively and with what sincere emotion the soldiers listened to the mother's instructions. They vowed to fulfill their duty to the motherland with honor; and they kept their word.

Many examples of skillful work by the ideological aktiv with letters of instructions could be cited. The letters played an important mobilizing role, kindling patriotic fire in the servicemen's hearts and creating the desire to successfully fulfill the tasks facing them.

Speaking of the forms of mass agitation work at the exercises, mention must be made of the moving meetings with war veterans and rallies held jointly with party and Soviet organs at settlements and at monuments of combat glory and the graves of servicemen who fell in battle against the motherland's enemies, for instance, the political section of the district's air forces included 15 Heroes of the Soviet Union in its agitation team. They visited most aviation units and subunits. The intelligence servicemen of the Rogachevskaya Red Banner, Orders of Suvirov and Kutuzov Guards Motorized Infantry Division named for the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet met with Hero of the Soviet Union, writer V. Karpov in the region of the exercises. Naturally, an indelible impression was produced on them by their meeting and talk with the former frontline intelligence officer and author of the famous novel "Take Them Alive!" [Vzyat Zhivym] and other works on military themes. Former partisan A. Kostroma, a full holder of the Order of Glory, was also a guest of the Rogachevskaya Motorized Infantry Division.

It is impossible to name all the veterans who responded to our requests and visited the units and subunits taking part in the exercises during those days. I will only say that in all some 500 people took part in these meetings.

On the eve of the "battle" an evening roll-call was held in the "N" Motorized Infantry Regiment with the combat banner being carried. The regiment formed up along

both sides of the path leading to the obelisk. Residents from surrounding villages also came. At the roll-call everything took place in strict accordance with military ritual. There was a minute's silence. Then, in mournful silence, Sr. Lt. A. Kirko, commander of the regiment's best platoon, and his subordinates went up to the monument and laid flowers. An old woman could not help sobbing and former partisan Petr Danilovich Nikonov, who fought near here, fervently wiped away a tear. He addressed the motorized infantrymen. He spoke quietly, but everyone heard--the silence was so profound all around.

The mobilizing effect of such events is indicated by the fact that the next day this regiment's servicemen, displaying great courage, acted boldly in "combat" and in the crossing of the Zapadnaya Dvina.

The success of mass agitation work at the exercises lay in its concreteness and its close links with the tasks being resolved by the troops. Here are some examples. When it became known in the regiment where Guards Capt A. Ivanov is a propagandist, that they were to advance in a sector full of armored targets, a kind of gunners' rally was held. A report was delivered by Maj V. Peretrukhin. The participants in the rally heard a lecture from Maj V. Vlasov on "The High Moral and Psychological Preparation of the Gunner--A Necessary Condition of Effective Firing in Modern Warfare." The address by the chief of a RAV [rocket and artillery troops] service, who spoke of the combat potential of armaments, was greeted with interest. Then the best gunners shared their experience in precision firing. The participants in the rally adopted an appeal calling on servicemen to display high skill at the exercises.

In another regiment, on the eve of action, members of the agitation and propaganda group, political information workers and staff communists held talks on the particular features of operations in a forest and marsh area and under massive "enemy" fire, and then there were practical studies with specialists. The molding of these events was dictated by life itself and by the desire to bring mass agitation work into close contact with concrete tasks. For that reason the events brought tangible benefits.

One question rehearsed at the exercises was the organization of collaboration between different categories of troops; the propagandists also took this into account. On their initiative, combat collaboration soirees were held in many units and subunits. The tankmen of "N" unit, for instance, received as guests the artillerymen who were to cover the tank attack with a moving barrage. The air defense artillerymen received representatives of the motorized infantrymen for a soiree, as well as the fighter pilots who were collaborating with air defense missile subunits in fulfilling their task. Such soirees helped to increase servicemen's sense of responsibility for the task entrusted to them, to strengthen friendship and to develop fellow feeling. The tankmen and motorized infantrymen, in particular, drove their vehicles behind a wall of artillery fire without a trace of timidity. They knew that their combat comrades, the artillerymen, would not let them down and that their machinery and skill were up to scratch.

In the complex conditions of combat operations propagandists and agitators held individual talks with servicemen, produced operational news sheets and news flashes, talked about people who had attained excellent results, brought people's tasks home to them, briefed them on the current situation, demanded that colleagues observe safety measures on the battlefield and disseminated leading experience, they did all this in the brief minutes of breaks between "battles," during the refueling of combat vehicles and their servicing and at halts.

Many Lenin rooms still carefully preserve the operational news sheets, "flashes," information bulletins, photo sheets and pamphlets produced during the "Zapad-81" exercises. Not all of them are colorfully designed, not all are stylistically beyond reproach, since they were produced in the brief respites between "battles," some of them are simply hurriedly compiled lists of the names of those with excellent results and calls for people to emulate the frontrunners. But how well these news sheets and "flashes" convey the tension of the "battles," what a great mobilizing impact they carried during the exercises.

During the combat operations most propagandists and agitators were on the spot, wherever success was being decided, wherever things were most difficult. Together with servicemen they went into the attack, crossed water barriers, took part in landing operations and rebuffed "enemy" counterattacks, and everywhere, in all sectors, they set an example of selfless fulfillment of their military duty. Not for anything were nearly one-third of those to whom gratitude was expressed for their actions in the exercises activists in agitation and propaganda work.

The ideological aktiv's activity in the dynamics of the "battle" could hardly have been so fruitful without constant, flexible leadership of its work on the part of commanders and political workers. At every stage of the exercises propagandists, political information workers and agitators were set concrete tasks; they were regularly briefed and equipped with everything they needed. All this enabled them to be constantly "au fait" with events, to influence their development on the spot and to work with people not episodically, but continuously.

The "Zapad-81" exercises once again convincingly confirmed the well-known fact that the ideological maturity and combat morale of personnel are in direct proportion to the quality and effectiveness of ideological work. Our servicemen passed the difficult test with honor. And that means that the propagandists were also up to requirements and coped confidently with the tasks they were set.

Of course, there were shortcomings in the work of staff and nonstaff propagandists. Some of the mass agitation measures they organized took place at an insufficiently high level and in a hurry. The situation in which the troops were operating was not always taken into account everywhere and in some places the main emphasis was placed on mass forms of propaganda and agitation. Certain comrades failed to show the proper initiative in their work, did not take the trouble to seek more interesting and effective forms and awaited instructions "from above." Of course, this had some effect on the standard of ideological and educational work in the exercises.

Opportunities for using the experience of propaganda and mass agitation work acquired during these exercises are great. To use this experience constantly in the ideological education of personnel and in the struggle for the successful fulfillment of combat training tasks is to achieve new, higher results in increasing the combat readiness of units and subunits.

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CSO: 1801/198-F

ARMED FORCES

COMMAND TRAINING: METHODS OF STRENGTHENING DISCIPLINE

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 2, Jan 82 (signed to press 5 Jan 82)
pp 35-41

[Article by Candidate of Historical Sciences, Col V. Mikora: "Motives in a Soldier's Conduct*"]

[Text] The author of these lines recalls a situation which he happened to witness.... A Komsomol meeting was underway in an air subunit. They were discussing the question of recommending the Komsomol member, Pfc N. Ponomarenko to study in a higher military school. The information given by the secretary of the Komsomol bureau contained a positive evaluation of the soldier's service and sociopolitical activities. Then questions began to be directed to the Komsomol secretary. One of them was particularly sharp: Why in the recommendation of Ponomarenko had there been the stipulations "over a long time," "about a year" and so forth? How had his performance been over all his service?

The answer to this question became the subject of an entire discussion. It turned out that Ponomarenko's service had not started brilliantly. Although in the training subunit he had predominantly good and excellent grades, there were also unsatisfactory ones. And in his service record this period was marked both by commendations and reprimands. The soldier had commenced his service in the combat subunit not without problems. But then he changed decisively and became an exemplary soldier. What was the reason for these changes? Could they be considered permanent? These questions were raised by several Komsomol members. Ponomarenko himself answered them. Then the Pfc's words were confirmed by his commander, Lt V. Bulich whom Ponomarenko had repeatedly turned to for advice on his career. It was precisely the decision to become an officer which was the impelling force influencing all the subsequent conduct of the soldier. Ponomarenko had been particularly impressed by the lieutenant's words: "Your desire to become a commander should be reinforced by a readiness to set the example for your subordinates in any undertaking. Only under this condition will you feel on top of it."

"I will be guided by this rule all my life," Ponomarenko assured the Komsomol organization.

* The article is recommended for use in the commander training system in studying the psychological and pedagogical aspects of officer activities in strengthening discipline and law and order in the subunits.

A number of years have passed since then. Ponomarenko successfully completed a higher military school and became a good officer. Recently, he was promoted to the position of unit deputy commander. Today it can be said with full justification that the desire to become an officer and to always be up to the demands placed on the Soviet commander was the dominating motive in all his subsequent service.

In the theory of activity elaborated by Soviet philosophers, sociologists and psychologists, by motives one understands the inner drives for actions as determined by experience in life and an awareness of the future. A motive operates as a unique regulator of conduct and an incentive of human activity.

A study of the motives of conduct opens up an opportunity to profoundly understand the entire individual and creates conditions for having a pedagogical influence on awareness and conduct.

For precisely this reason, V. I. Lenin paid exceptionally great attention to the motives of people's actions and the reasons for their formation. The teachings which antedated Marxism, he pointed out, "at best, viewed only the ideological motives in the historical activity of people, without examining what caused these motives, without capturing the objective patterns in the development of the system of social relations and not viewing the roots of these relations in keeping with the development of material production..." (PSS [Complete Collected Works], Vol 26, p 27). In the ideas of V. I. Lenin, the motives of conduct represented a sort of "controllable parameter" through which it was possible in a definite manner to influence human activities and their conduct. To aid in analyzing class interests and to indoctrinate a class self-awareness, taught the leader of the proletariat, meant to shape the motives of conduct.

In virtually every human action it is possible to trace the closely interrelated form of conduct and the goal of an action. For example, if a soldier has decided to become an outstanding man in military and political training, he behaves in a specifically determined manner, that is, he carefully obeys the commander in exercises, he acts energetically in drills and carries out his duties accurately. In a word, the form of conduct and the aim of the action answer, respectively, the questions: What is the soldier doing and what has he gained by his actions? However, it is equally important to know why he has behaved precisely in one way and not another.

The place of a motive in the structure of conduct can be shown in the following example. Let us assume that in his free time a soldier has begun to help the editor of a combat leaflet in putting out the next issue. The goal of the action is to achieve a more informative and eloquent combat leaflet. The form of conduct is the soldier makes a proposal to his fellow serviceman and carries out the work along with him. Seemingly, if one can judge from these two "parameters," the soldier merits every praise.

But in order to correctly assess an action, it is also essential to know the motive. Why has the soldier helped his comrade and what has impelled him to do this? If it shows an awareness of social interests and the help has been dictated by a sincere desire to assist in improving the wall press of his subunit, then the action is truly highly moral. It is also not bad if the aid is explained by relations of

friendship. But it may also happen that he has begun to help a comrade in order to thereby avoid less pleasant, in his opinion, duties, for example, housekeeping work to which he could be assigned during this time. No matter how praiseworthy the goal of helping a comrade and no matter how acceptable the form of conduct (he sits nearby and helps), the motive in such an instance turns out to be morally detrimental. From this light, the entire deed appears completely different than it might seem if judged without considering the impelling factor. Proceeding from what has been said, each commander and political worker, in relying on the party and Komsomol organizations, must pay primary significance to studying individual features and personality qualities of each soldier and sergeant. This makes it possible to work effectively with them, to develop all that is positive in the indoctrinees and to weed out the negative qualities.

Let us examine the areas of pedagogical effect on motives of conduct.

The strongest and at the same time the most complicated are the motives shaped on a basis of ideology which determines the content of a soldier's personality and, as a rule, subordinates all types of his motives. In Lenin's interpretation, ideology, as a motive, is related not to individual actions or not even to activity but rather to the entire system of socially significant actions performed by an individual over his life. At the same time, each individual action, like a drop of water, in a condensed form reflects the entire ideology of an individual. "...Even the most advanced ideology," emphasized Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "becomes a real force only when, in taking possession of the masses, it arouses them to energetic actions and determines the standards of their daily conduct" ("Aktual'nyye voprosy ideologicheskoy raboty KPSS" [Timely Questions of CPSU Ideological Work], Vol 1, Moscow, Politizdat, 1978, p 473).

Leading among motives formed on the basis of ideology are the feeling of duty to the motherland and responsibility to the collective. These are inherent to a predominant majority of the military. The designated motives help them in their daily activities to be guided by the high interests of Soviet society, the Armed Forces and their unit and subunit. This convincingly shows that the noble ideals of our society have become a firm basis for the activities of the Soviet military shaped as a result of purposeful indoctrinational work.

Military practice convincingly shows that servicemen who have firm ideological positions and profound Marxist-Leninist convictions carry out their service duty in an exemplary manner. On the other hand, a violation of the existing convictions is directly expressed in a negative set of views and conduct for a soldier. There are no "accidental" infractions. A majority of them has rather profound causes rooted in the sphere of ideological convictions. And ideological action will never be effective when it is not aimed at reshaping the views, convictions and value orientation of a soldier.

In the shaping of motives which contribute to disciplined conduct, a major place is held by purposeful and consistent ideological and political indoctrination. Each soldier should be convinced that discipline is the condition for best achieving the aims of a collective and that exemplary conduct by each serviceman ultimately determines the success of the subunits as a whole while strict fulfillment of the requirements of the regulations and instructions injects clarity and organization into all his actions. Consequently, no matter where a subunit, unit or ship is, no

matter what tasks it is carrying out, attention must not be weakened to the questions of proper conduct. It is wrong when a subunit drops its exactingness when it is moving to field exercises, a training center or a camp and does not pay proper attention to deviations from the regulations related to uniform violations or the giving of improper commands. It happens that under field conditions the men are not promptly supplied with hot food or newspapers arrive intermittently. Such shortcomings cannot be justified by objective factors. The main factor is in the failures of specific officials who should be called strictly to account.

The highest manifestation of military discipline is a desire raised to the point of a habit to unswervingly accept an order and to carry it out consciously, quickly and with initiative. This is possible only when the idea of the need to consciously carry out the provisions regulating army life becomes the soldier's conviction. For this reason, the commanders, political workers, the party and Komsomol organizations act correctly when they see their most important task in fully utilizing all the means of ideological and political influence on the personnel, and particularly political training, and view these as the crucial element in the strengthening of military discipline. Precisely such a focus is characteristic of all the training and indoctrinational process in the company under the command of Sr Lt A. Zhukov. The subunit's officers, the communists and the Komsomol aktiv, in the course of their daily political indoctrination and particularly political training, pay great importance to a thorough explanation of Lenin's legacy and the demands of the CPSU and directive bodies on the increased role played by military discipline under present-day conditions. In the course of political exercises it is always emphasized that precisely aware military discipline and the obedience of superiors unite a military collective and help it in solving the tasks confronting it.

Here in the course of political indoctrination great attention is paid to developing a spirit of collectivism in the men, to involving them in active sociopolitical life and to organizing lectures, reports and colloquiums on various questions of service, everyday life, morals and ethics. As a result, the company has successfully carried out the tasks of combat training, major infractions of discipline have been eliminated and for an extended time the subunit has been an outstanding one.

An ideal is the highest motive in terms of its content and motivating force. By an ideal one understands the highest embodiment of human desires and the ultimate goal of an individual's aspirations. An ideal represents not what a person in fact is but rather what he would like to be.

Under our conditions, an ideal, as a rule, expresses the main requirements of an individual and corresponds to the interests of society and the collective. An ideal can be an elevated idea which guides an individual in his practical activity and to the attaining of which he aims. This can be an image or a specific person which serves as an example for the soldier. An ideal based on communist ideological loyalty is a motive for many socially useful and historical actions.

The revolutionary, military and labor traditions of the CPSU, the Komsomol, the Soviet people and their Armed Forces hold an important place among the means, forms and methods of forming the communist ideal in the men. Here are to be found the force of the example of unstinting service of the motherland and the carrying out of revolutionary and military duty by the older generations. Inspired by the heroism and courage of their grandfathers, fathers and elder brothers, the present

generation of defenders of the motherland is permeated by a desire to imitate the heroes and to be the worthy continuers of their glorious deeds.

Indoctrination in traditions helps to develop the ideal of the soldier-patriot and internationalist in the soldiers, sergeants and officers. Having become a conviction and a standard of conduct, these traditions are transformed into motives which are the impetus for the exemplary fulfillment of military duty. It is very important that along with heroic individuals from history the soldier also see the ideal in those serving next to him. This ideal can be the officer of the subunit, the sergeant or soldier. It is important that he be this and that each soldier can follow his example.

The motives shaped on the basis of an awareness of the requirements of the military regulations play a major role in a soldier's conduct. Scientific research and military experience affirm that they are the basis for strong military discipline. One of the reasons for disciplinary infractions is the insufficient awareness on the part of certain servicemen of the requirements of the regulations governing army life. Where little attention is paid to military and legal indoctrination the disciplinary situation is worse and vice-versa.

There is an enormous field of activity for broadly propagandizing the military regulations and for shaping the motives of disciplined conduct on this basis. In this regard it is wise to recall the words of M. V. Frunze who advised the commanders to teach their subordinates discipline in precisely the same way that we teach them the design of weapons, tactics, mathematics and so forth.

In remembering that the discipline of a soldier starts by studying the military regulations and the oath and by the mastery of the laws of army life, the commanders and political workers should focus their efforts and the efforts of the party and Komsomol organizations on carrying out this task. Attention must be given to this not sporadically but daily.

A person's conduct is strongly influenced by the surrounding situation which is an immediate objective incentive for the shaping of various motives of conduct. It is well known that a strict daily regimen, time discipline, cleanliness and neatness in the barracks and service quarters as well as high demands on appearance and proper bearing cause positive changes in the characters of young soldiers. This is explained by the fact that if one or another motivated action is frequently repeated and a person is freed from the complex psychological process of motivation and from the stress involved in the act of decision taking and carrying out the decision, a permanent dynamic stereotype is developed for certain conduct and this is tantamount to a habit. Consequently, when the explanation of the procedure and rules of military service is linked closely to an active struggle for realizing them, the very situation shapes motives of disciplined conduct and helps to produce the necessary habits in the men.

Proper order is a strong indoctrinational factor. Under its influence a soldier develops the habits of rapid and correct actions in the most diverse situation and correct relationships with superiors, subordinates and equals in military rank and position. The procedures established in the Army and Navy temper a soldier's will, they develop the ability to master oneself and control one's conduct and inculcate

honesty and justice as well as intolerance of antisocial deeds and phenomena. The Decree of the CPSU Central Committee "On Further Improving Ideological and Political Indoctrination" emphasizes the need to further strengthen the indoctrinational role of the Soviet Armed Forces service in which is remarkable schooling in labor and military skills, moral purity and courage, patriotism and comradeship. This is why to be concerned with the maintaining of firm military order means to be concerned with making certain that every person who has undergone military service is tempered for all his life.

We must also mention the great indoctrinational role of precise organization of military training. In the course of it the young soldiers become familiar with the most modern equipment. Industriousness, collectivism, tenacity in achieving the goal, boldness, courage, steadfastness and unswerving discipline--these and many other qualities are formed and improved on the firing ranges and tank driving grounds, the launch and missile positions and in combat training. Each exercise, in addition to training goals, also has indoctrinational ones. Training and indoctrination are inseparable. This realizes one of the directions of indoctrination: from conduct to awareness. The precise organization of proper order and combat training in accord with the instructions and regulations, on the one hand, teaches one in practice the importance of strict military discipline and shapes the corresponding motive. On the other hand, it helps to develop the corresponding skills and habits.

The indoctrination of discipline consists not merely in passing on to the servicemen knowledge about the content of the laws, regulations and instructions or convincing them of the need to unswervingly and fully carry out their requirements, but also to develop the capacity and habit of obedience and efficiency as well as unswerving fulfillment of the standards and rules of army life. At the same time, the view of indoctrination as a form of unique training or the mechanical introduction into the individual of various moral traits regardless of the position of the personality, its requirements and interests, lead to an absolutizing of both practical activity as well as ethical education when a positive result is automatically expected from the very fact of the soldier's involvement in various measures of an indoctrinational nature. Such an approach leads to an overemphasis of the number of measures and to formalism in indoctrination.

In order to explain why the fulfillment of the standards of army life, the observance of the requirements of the military oaths and regulations and the "going through" of the exercises of proper conduct do not automatically and necessarily lead to the mastery of the regulation's requirements, it is important to consider that a morally indoctrinated soldier is characterized precisely by the inner perception of the regulations' principles and standards as principles and standards of his own conduct. It is a question of carrying out the proper standards out of inner conviction, when the directly external demands, if they do determine an action, then only in being reflected through the personality's intellectual and emotional sphere and becoming an inner demand of the soldier on himself.

The most widespread motives are the interests of a person, that is, the specific attitude of an individual to an object due to its vital importance and social attractiveness. V. I. Lenin gave great importance to interests, viewing them as a motive of conduct. He wrote: "The tasks of building a new society can be successfully carried out not on enthusiasm directly but rather with the help of enthusiasm

engendered by a great revolution, by personal interest and personal self-interest" (see PSS, Vol 44, p 151). As we see, in the quoted phrase, personal self-interest is not in opposition to enthusiasm, however it is emphasized that it plays an important role in determining a person's conduct.

The basic sphere for realizing a soldier's positive interests is his service and social activity. The committing of disciplinary infractions, violations of the law and even crimes becomes a sphere for realizing antisocial interests. At the same time it must not be forgotten that along with common interests characteristic of all the personnel of the Soviet Armed Forces, each man has his own "set" of goals which he is interested in achieving. Some of them are not great in scale (to master an interesting profession, to achieve certain sports accomplishments, to obtain home leave or another commendation and so forth) but they are very important for a soldier. For this reason, the conformity of a commander's actions to the reasonable interests of subordinates will greatly strengthen the effect of the indoctrinational influence.

It is important to organize all the measures carried out in military and political training in such a manner that each soldier, in being in a collective and a member of it, is able to develop his own interests, to find himself and to gain satisfaction. For this, it is recommended that this work be better coordinated with the activities of the subunit aktiv involved in the successful carrying out of various measures. This is particularly important in planning leisure on days off and the days before.

Usually during a week the party and Komsomol activists study the needs of the men, they collect proposals, outline measures, select the executors and then report their considerations to the commander or political worker. It is very important to involve the men in the work of various circles and sports sections and to employ other opportunities (the visiting of museums, art galleries, exhibits and so forth) in the interests of satisfying and developing the spiritual needs of the men. Approval should be given to the practice of those commanders and political workers who along with mass work plan and conduct measures designed for small groups and create conditions so that each soldier in his free time is able to participate in his favorite activity, be this working with equipment, reading, music or sports. "We possess great material and spiritual opportunities for evermore fully developing the individual and we will increase them in the future," as was pointed out at the 26th CPSU Congress. "But it is important at the same time that each person is able to rationally use these. And this, ultimately, depends upon what are the interests and needs of the individual. For this reason our party sees in their active and purposeful formation one of the important tasks of social policy" ("Materialy XXVI s"yezda KPSS" [Materials of the 26th CPSU Congress], Moscow, Politizdat, 1981, p 63).

Motives related to the situation in the subunit and the moral and psychological climate existing in it represent a large group. "In strengthening discipline and in indoctrinating a soldier, an enormous role is played by the collective," stressed the member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Minister of Defense, Mar SU D. F. Ustinov, in speaking on 9 December 1981 at a report-election Komsomol meeting in the guards motorized rifle regiment of the Guards Taman' Motorized Rifle Division imeni M. I. Kalinin. "A man does not live by himself. He is always among people. The mood and feelings of a soldier, his successes in training

and service depend upon the relationships in a collective. Under Army and Navy conditions, as nowhere else, the support of a friend, the helping hand of a friend, the trust of a friend are important." A soldier draws his incentives from his immediate surroundings, that is, from the military collective in which he serves. These motives are rather productive. They have a strong influence on the conduct of a majority of the men.

A profound respect for one's commander and a feeling of shame before him if a service error has happened are a variety of such motives. Thus, many soldiers in answering the questionnaire's question "what, in your opinion, causes you to be unfailingly disciplined?" mention their good attitude toward the chief as one of the incentives for disciplined conduct.

The motives of the men also depend upon what conduct is expected from a soldier or sergeant from those around. On the other hand, the degree of a collective's effect on the motives of conduct is definitely linked to the individual's conformity by which one understands the meeting of a certain standard recognized in the collective. Conformist conduct is characterized by the fact that in the event of differences of opinion between a group of servicemen and an individual soldier, the latter gives way. For this reason, a close collective that is politically and morally mature possesses great opportunities for influencing the awareness and feelings of the men and their conduct. But it is essential to bear in mind that a lack of discipline on the part of certain soldiers often is linked to an unhealthy situation in the collective and their fear of acting against an immature opinion of a group of servicemen or individuals. This often is the reason for motives of negative conduct. If such phenomena are promptly detected and are eradicated by pedagogical influence, their impact can be minimized.

The subunit commanded by Capt G. Kiriy for several years has been an outstanding one. It is a close-knit solid family in which a situation of a healthy moral climate, reciprocal exactingness and respect has been created. Capt Kiriy and the other officers maintain close, cordial contact with subordinates, they know their needs and mood well and because of this are always informed of the mood in the collective and are able to actively develop everything positive and nip in the bud anything that impedes the steady development of the men in training and service.

The collective of this subunit has become the true assistant of the commander in strengthening military discipline as well as a true indoctrinator. Sgt A. Sidorov has described how his comrades-in-arms and the entire situation in the company helped him find the correct path in service. After arriving from a training subunit, at first he underestimated preparations for specialty exercises, he paid little attention to political self-education and the indoctrination of subordinates and himself committed deviations from the regulations. The fellow servicemen patiently explained to the young soldier the importance of high special training and the ideological tempering of a junior commander, they gave advice on how to better allocate time and helped him in clearly organizing work with his subordinates. And they were very strict about every error if it was caused by irresponsibility or negligence. Such an attitude, naturally, had a positive influence on the man and induced him to increase the demands made on himself, to always follow the example of the leading fellow servicemen and to make a stronger contribution to the successes of the military collective.

Among the motives which guide the men in daily service, one must isolate a small group of them related to the system of commendations and punishments. The administrative power of a commander is an important means complimenting the ideological indoctrination in the area of strengthening military discipline. It is a question of increasing the role of disciplinary practices in ensuring the unfailing performance of service duty by each serviceman. The regulations not only give disciplinary rights to the commanders but also oblige them to utilize them actively. Here it is a question of not simply announcing the commendations or imposing penalties but rather their correct employment considering all the necessary requirements of military pedagogics.

At the same time, we would like to caution those commanders who count only on their disciplinary rights in indoctrinational work. Of course, a commendation and a penalty are effective means of influencing the men. But in and of themselves they do not inculcate any moral qualities of the personality. For this reason, commendations and punishments are more correctly seen only as a procedure of action which in the event of a proper combination with other procedures and favorable conditions can be effective and help to shape disciplined conduct. It is important to remember that military indoctrination is achieved only when the standards of the regulations acquire an integrated nature for the soldier and become important for him regardless (and even in spite of) the appeal of a commendation or the fear of punishment.

Thus, in daily service and training each serviceman is exposed to an entire range of motives. Some of them impel disciplined conduct while others, on the contrary, can have a negative influence. A precisely organized training process and a purposeful political indoctrination effect are the guarantee for a successful encouraging of conduct which fully meets the requirements of the military regulations and oath. It is a matter of honor for the subunit commander, the political worker and all officer indoctrinators to be constantly aware of this and do everything within their power to successfully carry out the tasks of military and political training on a firm foundation of high discipline among subordinates.

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CSO: 1801/196

ARMED FORCES

GUIDE FOR INDOCTRINATION ON IMPERIALISM AS A WAR THREAT

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 2, Jan 82 (signed to press 5 Jan 82) pp 71-81

[Article by Candidate of Historical Sciences, Docent, Col V. Bokarev and Candidate of Economic Sciences, Docent, Col B. Korniyenko: "Imperialism--A Source of Military Danger*"]

[Text] Twelve hours are assigned to study the entire subject. This time should be allocated as follows. Initially there should be a 2-hour lecture (narration) on the first two study questions given in the published article, 2 hours of independent preparation should be organized for them and then a 2-hour seminar exercise (discussion). Then there should be a 2-hour lecture (narration) on the third and fourth study questions, 2 hours of independent study and after this a 2-hour seminar exercise (discussion).

The first lecture must be devoted to Lenin's description of imperialism and to the theses voiced at the 26th CPSU Congress on the further exacerbation of the general crisis of capitalism at the present stage. In the second lecture it is essential to point out that imperialism is a rabid enemy of social progress and a real source of military danger. The students must be brought to the conclusion that it is essential in every possible way to increase vigilance and military readiness of a subunit, unit and ship.

In studying the subject it is essential to examine the following study questions: 1. Lenin's description of imperialism. 2. The 26th CPSU Congress on the further exacerbation of the general crisis in capitalism. 3. Imperialism--the enemy of the peoples and social progress, the source of military danger. 4. To be vigilant and to maintain constant combat readiness.

In the brief introduction to the subject, it is essential to point out that the Soviet people are successfully carrying out the plans elaborated by the 26th CPSU Congress. We must carry out the creative tasks in a difficult international situation. The dangerous plans and adventuristic policy of the aggressive imperialist circles create a threat to peace and security of the peoples.

* Material for political exercises on the subject "The World Capitalist System."

The Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist commonwealth have worked continuously to improve the international situation. Their constructive peaceful proposals have been greeted with understanding and support among the broad masses of people throughout the world. At the same time, when confronted with a further accelerating of the material, political and ideological preparations for war by the imperialists, high vigilance and readiness to repel aggression are essential as never before.

1. Lenin's Description of Imperialism

The entire history of the development of a class society prior to the Great October Socialist Revolution was an alternation of one exploiting system after another. Feudalism replaced a slave-holding society and feudalism in turn was replaced by the capitalist system. After capitalism was established in all the industrially developed countries, the world capitalist system was formed and this extended its dominance over the entire world economy.

By the start of the present century, capitalism had grown into its highest and last stage, imperialism (from the Latin word "imperium" meaning power or dominance). An enormous contribution to a scientific study of imperialism was made by V. I. Lenin, the inspired continuer of the teachings of K. Marx and F. Engels.

In his famous work "Imperialism as the Higher Stage of Capitalism" (1916), V. I. Lenin disclosed and thoroughly established the patterns for the growth of capitalism into its last stage. He described imperialism as monopolistic capitalism, parasitic or rotten capitalism and the eve of the socialist revolution.

The first and basic feature of imperialism is the concentration of production and capital reaching such a high degree that monopolies were formed. These were giant associations of capitalists which began to play a crucial role in the economy and political life of bourgeois society.

How did this occur? The formation of monopolies was gradually prepared for by changes in capitalist production. As is known, in the early stage of capitalism there existed many separate enterprises which were individually owned by the capitalists. However, the development of machinery-based industry, the growth of the scale of production and the appearance of new industrial sectors--all of this ultimately led to a concentration of production at large enterprises which employed a significant portion of the workers in the given sector and produced the basic portion of its product. The development of industry was accompanied by a competitive struggle in the course of which the weak and small enterprises were destroyed and absorbed by the stronger ones.

In the aim of even further strengthening their domination, these strong enterprises began to form large companies or monopolies. The aim of such associations was to concentrate the production and marketing of the products in the hands of a handful of capitalists and obtain monopolistically high profits and to seize the dominant positions in the crucial spheres of social life.

This process led ultimately to a situation where the large monopolies seized the basic means of production and the economic resources of society and then subordinated the entire system of political power to their influence. "A monopoly." V. I.

Lenin pointed out, "once it has been formed and controls billions, with absolute inevitability permeates all aspects of social life, regardless of the political system or whatever other 'detail'" (PSS [Complete Collected Works], Vol 27, p 355).

The monopolies employ their economic and political dominance for their own enrichment by exploiting millions of simple workers in the city and countryside. At present, in the capitalist world there are upwards of 250 giant monopolies each with a capital over 1 billion dollars. In the leading economic sectors of the most developed capitalist nations, a handful of giant monopolistic associations actually holds uncontested sway.

The process of the unification of capital has been accompanied by phenomena which clearly show the predatory, parasitic and antipopular face of imperialism. The omnipotence and arbitrariness of the monopolies are growing. The capitalists have intensified the exploitation of the working class and all strata of the workers in the aim of extracting maximum profits. The reactionary nature of the entire bourgeois system is growing stronger. The imperialists by every measure are strengthening their dictatorship, they are endeavoring to curtail the already scanty bourgeois democracy and are persecuting and making reprisals against the political and social organizations of the workers. In a number of instances the reactionary bourgeoisie has resorted to an overt fascist dictatorship and to unrestrained terror against the people.

V. I. Lenin considered the second important feature of imperialism to be the merging of bank capital with industrial capital and the formation of financial capital or the financial oligarchy. The financial oligarchy is a narrow group of closely interlinked and most powerful capitalists representing the interests of monopolistic capital and dominant in the economic and political life of the imperialist nations.

Several groups of a financial oligarchy dominate in each imperialist nation. For example, in the United States there are up to 25 such groups. They control 60 percent of the nation's industrial production. Take just one clan of U.S. billionaires, the Rockefeller family. It owns six companies involved in oil production and refining, five large banks, three insurance companies, two airlines as well as several corporations in the energy, chemical, paper, sugar and other industrial sectors. The total value of the enterprises controlled by the Rockefeller family has been estimated at more than 60 billion dollars. In the English economy the main role is played by up to 20 financial groups, with 5 in Japan and 3 in the FRG.

The dominance of financial capital and the financial oligarchy is one of the manifestations of the extreme reactionary nature of imperialism. Here everything is subordinate to the interests of capital and to the power of gold which A. M. Gor'kiy aptly named the "yellow devil." Financial capital concentrates in its hands the most recent scientific and technical achievements, utilizing them not in the interests of the workers but rather against them, for the purpose of obtaining the ever-same superprofits. The financial oligarchy dictates monopoly prices by which unrestrained plundering of the workers is carried out.

Financial capital controls military production and plays the most important role in the preparation for and unleashing of aggressive wars. The industrial and banking magnates determine and dictate the aggressive neocolonialist policy to the rulers of

their nations and they resist a lessening of international tension. Tension in the world is advantageous to them as it fosters the growth of military allocations and for this reason contributes to the obtaining of fabulous profit.

V. I. Lenin called the exporting of capital the third characteristic feature of imperialism. "The exporting of goods was typical," pointed out V. I. Lenin, "for old capitalism with the full dominance of free competition. The exporting of capital has become typical for modern capitalism with the rule by the monopolies" (PSS, Vol 27, p 359).

Why do the monopolies export their capital overseas, predominantly to the backward, underdeveloped nations? Again for extracting maximum superprofits. Driven by the thirst for gain, the monopolists are no longer satisfied with the exploiting of their own people. The internal front for the application of capital becomes narrow for them and in addition a particularly acute competitive struggle reigns here. For this reason the monopolists move into other, more remote nations where the raw materials and labor force are cheap with a "undeveloped" market. They invest their capital there, they plunder the natural riches of the underdeveloped nations, they mercilessly exploit the workers, they turn these nations into agrarian and raw material fiefs of their economy and subordinate them to their influence.

The intensified exporting of capital ultimately led to the dividing up of the world into spheres of influence between the major monopolistic associations and to the formation of international monopolies. The economic partitioning of the world by international monopolies was termed by V. I. Lenin the fourth characteristic feature in the imperialist stage of capitalism.

The formation of the international monopolies objectively led to an intensified struggle between the imperialist powers. Certainly the economic apportionment of the world on the basis of agreements between the major international monopolies could never be viewed as final. The unevenness of development and changes in the balance of forces among the monopolies of the various imperialist powers inevitably led to a reapportionment of the markets and spheres of influence.

The tendency toward the monopolization of markets, sources of raw materials and spheres for the investment of capital gives rise to a territorial dividing of the world between the major imperialist powers and this was considered by V. I. Lenin to be the fifth characteristic feature of imperialism.

The imperialist monopolies, in struggling for territories, for regions of the most advantageous markets and for sources of raw materials and objects for the investment of capital, dictate to the governments of their countries a policy of imperialist piracy on the world scene. By bloody aggressive wars, and by fierce suppression and merciless eradication of the peoples in the backward nations, the imperialists won enormous territories turning them into their colonies. By 1914, that is, by the start of World War I, colonies made up around 67 percent of the world's territory. Over one-half the world's population, some 930 million persons, were under colonial suppression.

With the complete dividing of the world into spheres of influence, contradictions intensified between the imperialist powers. Now arose the question of redividing the world with the aid of fierce imperialist wars.

The transition of capitalism into the imperialist stage has been characterized by the growing together of the monopolies and the state. V. I. Lenin defined imperialism as an age of the turning of monopolistic capitalism into state monopolistic capitalism. This means that the major monopolies have taken over all the force and power of the bourgeois state with its numerous institutions such as the bureaucracy, the courts, the police and army, for strengthening their economic and political domination and for intensifying the repression against the workers of their own nations and other peoples.

V. I. Lenin pointed out that in the period of imperialism there is a strengthening of all the contradictions of capitalism. Its basic contradiction, that is, between the social nature of production and the private capitalist form of appropriation, is aggravated to the extreme. The productive forces grow and develop. Production is consolidated, more and more it assumes a social nature but the appropriation of its results remains private. The capitalists, the owners of the implements and means of production, as before benefit from the fruits of social labor. As a result the contradictions between labor and capital, between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie, become extremely exacerbated. The working class and the workers under the leadership of the communist and workers parties have developed an evermore organized and purposeful struggle against the coercion of the monopolies, for their rights and democratic freedoms and for socialism.

A sharp exacerbation of contradictions can also be observed between the individual imperialist states, groups of states and between the major monopolies and groups of monopolies. Due to the uneven development of capitalism, some states and groups of monopolists have grown stronger at the expense of others and have endeavored to seize new spheres of influence, markets and raw materials sources by the force of arms. The contradictions between the handful of imperialist states and the numerous colonies and semicolonies have become extremely exacerbated.

In investigating the economic development of capitalism, V. I. Lenin emphasized that imperialism is unable to overcome the contradictions besetting it and which can be resolved only by revolution. Proceeding from this, V. I. Lenin drew the inspired conclusion that imperialism is the eve of the proletariat's socialist revolution.

As a consequence of the uneven development of capitalism, V. I. Lenin pointed out, a socialist revolution may not be victorious simultaneously in all countries. It will initially be victorious in a few or even one, individual nation where the contradictions of imperialism will be particularly acute and its weakest link disclosed. Such a link was Russia where the working class, under the leadership of the Bolshevik party headed by V. I. Lenin, with the support of all the workers, carried out the Great October Socialist Revolution in 1917.

V. I. Lenin predicted the inevitability of a greater crisis in "all world capitalism" (PSS, Vol 45, p 402). History has completely confirmed his inspired prediction.

As is known, the first stage in the general crisis of capitalism started with World War I and particularly the victory of the October Revolution in Russia. Great October had an enormous influence on the workers and national liberation movement and provided a powerful impetus to all social development.

The inception of the second stage in the general crisis of capitalism was tied to World War II and to the victory of the socialist revolutions in a number of European and Asian nations. The shock forces of international imperialism, German Naziism and Japanese militarism, were defeated. The world socialist system began to be formed and the positions of socialism and democracy in the world were strengthened.

From the second half of the 1950's, new important changes occurred in the balance of forces between the two world systems in favor of socialism and in addition the internal economic and social contradictions of imperialism were aggravated. This caused a transition to the third stage in the general crisis of capitalism. Its particular feature is that its start was not linked to a world war.

In completing the material of the first question, it is important to conclude that Lenin's teachings on imperialism maintain their validity today. They arm the working masses with a profound understanding of the prospects of social development and challenge them to fight even more actively against all forms of exploitation and suppression in the world and for a better future.

2. The 26th CPSU Congress on the Further Exacerbation in the General Crisis of Capitalism

In beginning to give the second question, it is important to emphasize that the general crisis in capitalism occupies a relatively long historical span. Its development has occurred from one stage to another, occurring unevenly, abruptly, through class struggle and economic storms. The 26th CPSU Congress pointed out that in the 1970's the general crisis of capitalism deepened further. The crisis encompassed its economy, political life, ideology and many other spheres. What is the uniqueness of the present, third stage in the overall crisis of capitalism?

First of all, in the fact that it is occurring in a situation when the ongoing growth of the world revolutionary process and its component parts (real socialism, the international workers movement and the national liberation movement) is continuing. Over the last decade the revolutionary forces have made substantial headway in all the fronts of the struggle against imperialism and the forces of reaction and suppression. "These were years of a further growth in the might, activeness and authority of the Soviet Union and the other nations of the socialist commonwealth," commented Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in the Accountability Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 26th Party Congress. "The revolutionary struggle of peoples was marked by new victories.... In the 1970's, the liquidation of colonial empires was actually completed.

"The sphere of imperialist domination in the world was narrowed while the internal contradictions in the capitalist nations and the rivalry between them grew sharper" ("Materialy XXVI s"yezda KPSS" [Materials of the 26th CPSU Congress], p 4).

During these years, the economic might of the socialist nations grew. From 1970 through 1979, the volume of their industrial product doubled. In comparison with the capitalist nations, the growth rate of production was higher. In 1980, the socialist world produced over 40 percent of the world's industrial product.

In the 1970's, the strength and organization of the workers movement increased greatly in the capitalist nations. As was pointed out at the 26th CPSU Congress, the

communist parties continued to broaden their ranks and to strengthen their influence in the masses.

The territorial constricting of the sphere of imperialist domination has also continued. The victory of the heroic Vietnamese people was an event of enormous importance. Laos and Kampuchea also set out on the path of socialist changes. Victorious anti-imperialist revolutions occurred in Angola, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Southern Yemen and Nicaragua. The anti-popular, monarchical regime in Iran was overthrown.

The collapse of the colonial system and the achieving of political independence by the nations of the former colonial and semi-colonial periphery of imperialism were a profound revolutionary change in the life of peoples making up around two-thirds of the world's population. This was an event of enormous historical significance, a great victory for all mankind and convincing confirmation of the exacerbation in the general crisis of capitalism.

The 1970's also brought a further all-round exacerbation of the deep contradictions in capitalism. In the economic area there was a significant strengthening of the cyclical fluctuations. Over the last decade imperialism has lived through three crises of a decline in production. One of them, the world economic crisis of 1973-1975, was the most profound and deep crisis since the 1930's.

There has been stagnant production in a number of the leading economic sectors of the industrially developed capitalist nations such as in ferrous metallurgy, motor vehicle production and power.

The raw materials problem has grown more acute. In the capitalist nations, particularly in the United States and Great Britain, there has been a sharp decline in the growth rate of social production and scientific and technical progress has slowed down. Inflation has assumed an unprecedented scale. It is essential to explain that inflation is the flooding of the channels of monetary circulation with paper money above the real needs of the economy and this leads to a sharp rise in commodity prices. Inflation is also a consequence of wars, the militarization of the economy and economic crises when the bourgeois state covers its increasing expenditures by additional emission of paper money. Under the conditions of the general crisis of capitalism, inflation has assumed a universal and chronic nature.

All the designated contradictions in capitalism are not isolated from one another but are intertwined into a single knot. It is a question of a profound and all-round crisis in the capitalist economy.

Of course, bourgeois leaders see these difficulties and are endeavoring to carry out certain measures to regulate the capitalist economy. However, the 26th CPSU Congress pointed out that these measures help very little. In taking measures against inflation, the bourgeois governments contribute to production stagnation and increased unemployment; in endeavoring to check the critical decline in production they further fuel inflation.

For example, how has the present U.S. administration endeavored to check inflation, balance the federal budget and seek out funds for modernizing and expanding production? By reducing expenses on the socioeconomic needs of the workers. As a result

of such a policy of economic "recovery," some 400,000 U.S. families have been deprived of payments under the Assistance for the Needy Program. For another 276,000 families the amounts of such aid have been reduced. All the while almost 30 million Americans live below the official poverty line.

The 26th CPSU Congress pointed out that in the capitalist nations, socioclass contradictions have become acutely aggravated. The impetus to this has come from the significant increase in unemployment combined with sharply intensified inflation. According to official data alone, in the capitalist nations taken together, there are 30 million unemployed, and this is 3-fold more than at the beginning of the 1960's and 1970's. In the United States, according to official data, there are over 9 million unemployed. It must be pointed out that these official data are far from complete and are disputed by the trade unions. For example, in the United States the Department of Labor does not count as unemployed the persons who have worked during the week for even 1 hour as well as those who have been put on unpaid "leave" due to the temporary closing down of the enterprises. More than a million Americans have completely stopped registering with the employment offices in despairing to find any work whatsoever.

In recent years, the interimperialist contradictions have been sharply exacerbated. As a result of the uneven development of the main capitalist nations, by the start of the 1970's in the imperialist camp three rival centers had formed, the United States, Western Europe and Japan. In 1979, the proportional amount of the United States in the total industrial production of the capitalist nations was just 37 percent, that is, it was less than the share of Western Europe and Japan taken together. The share of the United States in the exports of the capitalist nations dropped to 12 percent, that is, it was 4-fold less than the share of Western Europe.

In the nations competing with the United States, the major monopolies have grown significantly and become stronger. By the end of the 1970's, the competitors of the United States owned 8 out of the 11 leading automotive corporations in the capitalist world, 4 out of the 8 of the electronic and electrical engineering ones, 5 out of the 6 chemical and 2 out of the 3 concerns in ferrous metallurgy. If one excludes the oil industry, where the positions of American capital still predominate, then only 8 out of the 30 major industrial corporations in the capitalist world are presently American.

Characteristically, the domestic market of the United States itself has become a new area for the expansion of the Western European and Japanese monopolies. Here Japanese and West German corporations have successfully won positions, in squeezing their American competitors. Trade rivalry between the imperialist states has begun more and more often to grow into governmental-level conflicts. At present, there is no major economic question over which the U.S., Western European and Japanese positions do not differ.

Of course, economic crises of varying strength have also appeared in individual sectors and nations. Ending up in the best position have been those firms and sectors of production which have been able to avoid mass dismissals and even create additional jobs by developing mutually advantageous cooperation with the socialist countries.

However, as a whole in the second half of the 1970's and the start of the 1980's, in many countries of monopolistic capital, a new organized assault by the monopolies and states has been developed against the economic rights of the workers. Attempts are being made to place the burden of economic difficulties on the shoulders of the broad masses of people and to curtail the social legislation won by the people in a stubborn struggle against those in power. And at the same time to protect the profit of the monopolies and to make the rich even richer. The Reagan government, for example, "in the aim of curing the economy" adopted a decision to cut corporation taxes by 25 percent. This means that over the next 5 years the state treasury will not receive 750 billion dollars which were actually given as gifts to the monopolies and the rich. At the same time social expenditures over this same period will be cut by 131 billion dollars. Already 250 federal programs have been abolished with the daily existence of millions of Americans depending on them.

The workers have responded to this by a greater struggle for their rights. The number of strikers in the main capitalist nations over the last decade has increased by more than a third, having reached, according to just official data, a quarter of a billion persons.

The attempts to reduce the pressure of class struggle by any social reforms, as was pointed out at the 26th CPSU Congress, were also unsuccessful. The monopolistic bourgeoisie has been bankrupt when confronted with economic difficulties. While in the previous decades the myths were strongly fostered of the possibility of crisis-free capitalist development or the beginning of an age of "social harmony," at present there are already few who believe this. Bourgeois economists themselves assert that a decline in the growth of production is expected and sooner or later in the future there will be a complete halt in this growth. And they shrug their shoulders helplessly without being able to offer any constructive program.

As for the most reactionary forces of the monopolistic bourgeoisie, they are seeking a way out of the economic difficulties in further increasing the arms race and in a global counteroffensive against the forces of peace, democracy and socialism.

Along with the economic crisis, the ideological and political one in bourgeois society has also grown stronger. It has afflicted the institutions of authority, the bourgeois political parties, it has shaken elementary moral standards and has been manifested in the decline of culture, morality and the growth of crime. On the shelves in bookstores, on the stages of theaters and on the screens of cinemas and TV sets there has been a flood of base works which extoll cruelty and violence, which preach degeneracy and arouse base instincts.

Bourgeois ideology has been incapable of giving the people those ideas which could offset the great attractive force of communist ideals and goals. At present, when socialism has turned from a dream into a reality, the workers have an opportunity to compare capitalist reality with the practice of the socialist world. Such a comparison inevitably leads to the conclusion that only socialism and communism can ensure real freedom, equality and fraternity. This is why the ideologists of the bourgeoisie have declared the struggle against communist ideas to be their main task. This alone shows that they have no positive program but merely are endeavoring to check social progress.

In the capitalist nations an entire industry of anticommunism has grown up and hundreds of special institutes are working out the methods to repudiate communist ideas and are thinking up "arguments" which would defame socialism in the eyes of the workers. Enormous amounts of money are thrown into this as well as the most powerful mass information media. Of course, such activity has left its mark and has influenced a portion of the population in the capitalist nations.

Anti-Sovietism is a component part and the chief content of anticommunism. It endeavors to discredit the political, economic and ideological bases of Soviet society, to distort or conceal the truth about our nation and to defame the great victories of the homeland of October. But it is becoming harder and harder for the anticommunists and anti-Soviet persons to achieve their goals. Reality itself, the successes of the USSR and the fraternal socialist nations in all spheres of social life and their consistently progressive and peace-loving policy have convincingly refuted the falseness and baselessness of the arguments of our ideological opponents.

The peoples of the world can see with their own eyes that precisely imperialism is a brake on social progress and threatens the very existence of human society. It is ready to undertake any cruelties and any adventures to turn back the wheel of history and to extend its existence. But history long ago handed down the sentence on imperialism. It is doomed because the objective laws of social development and the pressing interests of tens and hundreds of millions of people in our world are against it.

3. Imperialism--The Enemy of the Peoples and Social Progress, the Source of Military Danger

From the previous lecture (narration) the students have already learned that at the present stage there is a further exacerbation of the general crisis of capitalism. This was spoken of in detail at the 26th CPSU Congress. The Congress concluded: "The difficulties which capitalism is experiencing influence its policy as well, including foreign policy.... Recently there has been a noticeable increase in the activity of the opponents of detente, weapons limitation and improving relations with the USSR and the other socialist nations.

"Adventurism and a readiness to wager the vital interests of mankind for the sake of their narrow selfish aims--this is particularly apparent in the policy of the most aggressive imperialist circles" ("Materialy XXVI s"yezda KPSS," p 20).

Having given such an introduction to the second lecture (narration) on the subject, the propagandist should move on to the third question. This can be started with the words of V. I. Lenin written in 1913 in his article "Civilized Barbarianism":

"Wherever you look, at every step you encounter tasks which mankind could resolve immediately. Capitalism is the stumbling block. It has accumulated heaps of riches and made the people slaves of these riches.... Civilization, liberty and wealth under capitalism make one think about the fat rich man who is rotting alive and does not allow the young to live" (PSS, Vol 24, p 17).

The entire appearance of modern bourgeois society confirms the validity of this Leninist estimate. As was already pointed out, V. I. Lenin clearly defined the historical place of imperialism, calling it the threshold to socialism and the eve

of the socialist revolution. "Capitalism is dying," pointed out the leader of the world proletariat, "and in its death it can cause tens and hundreds of millions of people unbelievable suffering, but no force can prevent it from falling" (PSS, Vol 44, p 329).

It must be emphasized that the last exploiting system in the world is moving precisely in the direction which V. I. Lenin predicted. The general crisis of capitalism as the world system mentioned in the first lecture (narration) on the given subject, is continuing to steadily deepen. The imperialism of our days is a world of the omnipotence of giant monopolies the insatiable appetites of which are continuing to grow.

At present, the unifying of the force of the monopolies with the power of the state into a single mechanism for fighting against the socialist world, against the revolutionary actions of the working class and against the general democratic movement of the masses of people has become the chief means for preserving the class rule of the bourgeoisie.

It must then be stressed that the military industrial complex (MIC) is the most abnormal and dangerous offspring of state monopolistic capitalism. It is advisable to explain to the students that the MIC is an aggressive alliance of the major defense monopolies, the militaristic upper clique and their direct supporters in the state apparatus of the capitalist nations. The MIC is a qualitatively new element in the entire system of state monopolistic capitalism. It has become a separate militaristic nucleus in the imperialist nations, concentrating the interests of the most adventurous circles of the monopolistic bourgeoisie, the representatives of state power and the most reactionary part of the military.

The MIC has strengthened and reinforced the influential position of the monopolistic groupings in the light of bourgeois society, it has linked up with military business and won strong positions in the corresponding bodies of state power. From an implement of policy it has now been turned into a force which determines the policy of imperialism. The MIC rests on a strong financial basis and this provides an opportunity for the military departments to use many sectors of production, science, natural resources and the labor force for its own interests. As an example, the Pentagon, in the definition of the American magazine NATION, is the nation's largest employer, contractor, purchaser and property owner. It owns real estate valued at over 200 billion dollars. It employs at least 8 million persons.

In possessing enormous opportunities, the Pentagon is endeavoring to strengthen its influence on the related monopolies. The companies which concentrate in the production of weapons and military materials are provided with exceptionally high profits. These profits, for example, are 70 percent higher than the companies producing non-military products. In many instances the profits of the military monopolies exceed the income in the civilian sectors by 2-3-fold.

All the failures of the world of exploitation and gain in their most repulsive forms are inherent to the weapons business. It exacerbates the very acute economic and social problems in the United States. There is a fierce competitive struggle between the military monopolies for a place in the line in front of the Pentagon cash office. But they are united by a militaristic ideology, unrestrained aggressiveness and hate for socialism. This is true for the entire MIC of imperialism.

The unchecked power of the MIC is a most dangerous factor in strengthening international tension. Certainly the military industrial magnates and the military can put strong pressure on the ruling circles of their nations, in demanding a further rise in military expenditures and the deployment of ever-new types of weapons. Ultimately the reactionary circles of imperialism united in the MIC have set as their goal to stop the world revolutionary process by violence and to recover the positions lost to imperialism. This is why their ideological and political platform is rabid anti-communism and anti-Sovietism.

The peoples of the world ever-better are realizing that imperialism which has already doomed mankind to two world wars at present is threatening people with a military catastrophe which in our nuclear missile age can entail irretrievable consequences for human civilization. Imperialism unceremoniously intervenes into the affairs of others and supports the racists and colonialists and regimes of suppression and violence which are most hated by the peoples. It is no accident that precisely it gave rise to fascism, the most monstrous embodiment of obscurantism and reaction.

The militant circles of imperialism are endeavoring to resolve the basic contradiction of the modern age, the contradiction between socialism and capitalism, by force of arms and by the violent exporting of counterrevolution. The millions-strong armies in the capitalist states equipped with modern weapons, the aggressive military alliances of imperialism and its numerous bases of international piracy and terrorism are aimed primarily and precisely against the socialist world and against the national liberation movements.

The West's present increase rates for weapons, including nuclear missile ones, the unprecedented growth of military budgets, the scope of the strategic preparations in the NATO nations and primarily the United States and the degree of militarizing scores of imperialist states--all of this is beyond any comparison even with the recent past.

The most aggressive detachments of modern imperialism have not abandoned the hope of "replaying" the historical events of the 20th century, to gain revenge, to unseat socialism from its worldwide influence and to resurrect colonialism in new forms.

At present, the United States and its NATO allies are undertaking desperate attempts to wreck the existing military strategic equilibrium between the socialist and capitalist forces. Since the implementation of these evil plans is complicated by the growing difficulties which the capitalist economy has encountered, the imperialists are showing increased interest in the military economic resources of the developing countries. This naturally has also been reflected in the strategic plans of modern neocolonialism. Its main aim is to direct the development of the liberated nations along a capitalist path and to prevent the penetration of progressive socioeconomic changes in them.

At one time K. Marx pointed out that civilization and justice of the bourgeois system appear in their true, evil light when its slaves and suppressed rise up against the rulers. Then this civilization and this justice are a completely exposed barbarism and illegal retribution. The validity of these words is again affirmed by the present situation in the nations where monopolistic capital holds sway.

At the very time that mankind acutely needs resources to combat hunger, sicknesses and illiteracy, imperialism has forced it to throw colossal amounts into the jaws of the military behemoth. According to UN data, after World War II more than 6 trillion dollars have been spent in the world for military purposes and this figure is continuing to grow rapidly. Last year, according to the same data, military expenditures in the world exceeded 500 billion dollars. This means that due to the fault of imperialism, mankind is presently spending approximately 1.37 billion dollars a day on producing weapons of death. Against the background of the enormous opportunities which are being opened up by the development of science and technology in our times, particularly apparent is the inability of imperialism to ensure normal development of the economy, to protect society against poverty and poorness and to eliminate unemployment.

Growth of Military Expenditures in the U.S.

(In \$ billions)

1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1986 (According to preliminary data)
82	94	104.3	116.6	130	141.2	over 180	226.3	374.3

History proves that imperialism has created an enormous production machine. But this machine serves merely to increase the wealth and power of a handful of capitalist magnates. The greatest achievements of technology are employed by imperialism to strengthen the exploitation of millions of workers and to prepare for new destructive wars. For the existence of imperialism mankind has paid in hundreds of thousands of lives sacrificed in bloody wars and merciless exploitation. At present this antipopular system is hatching out particularly dangerous plans in forcing the world into the abyss of a nuclear missile war.

The bourgeois governments, as was pointed out by V. I. Lenin, have repeatedly thrown themselves "into the most absurd and irrational adventures and which can only be explained by the desperation and hopelessness of their position" (PSS, Vol 42, p 314). Precisely such adventurism is characteristic for the present political course of the United States. In following its habit of acting in international affairs "from a position of strength," the United States has challenged peace by escalating the arms race. In fanning military hysteria and to a furious propaganda campaign about the supposed "Soviet military threat," Washington has endeavored to achieve military superiority over the USSR and to unleash a nuclear war against our nation and the other countries of the socialist commonwealth. The motto in Washington has become the cynical phrase of the U.S. Secretary of State A. Haig: "There are things more important than peace." So production has been started up for neutron bombs and cruise missiles, a decision was taken to produce the MX missiles and the B-1 bombers and supplies were replenished of bombs containing the agents of plague, anthrax and other evils. The territories of scores of nations have been declared a zone of American "vital interests."

All last year, attempts were continued to impose hundreds of new American medium-range nuclear missiles on the Western European countries and these were to be aimed

at the USSR. If the almost 600 new American missiles will be additionally deployed in Western Europe, then in terms of the number of carriers, NATO will have an advantage of 1.5-fold and in terms of nuclear warheads approximately 2-fold. Certainly the USSR will never tolerate this.

The lethal missiles which the United States intends to employ on the European Continent fit fully into the concept of a "limited" nuclear war which appeared even under President Carter. Its scenario is as follows: the Americans will initiate a war in Europe, their NATO allies will be allowed to take the retaliatory blow while the Americans themselves sit it out overseas. This idea is somewhat reminiscent of what Beijing has been following in trying to provoke a military clash between the USSR and the United States.

The destructive flames of world wars have never broken out on the American Continent. Possibly, some in the White House today are still under the illusion that they can survive in a nuclear conflict hoping that the main battlefield will again be in Europe. These crazy ideas were strongly repudiated by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in his reply to a question posed by the PRAVDA correspondent: "Only a person who has resolved to commit suicide could start a nuclear war in the hope of emerging from it as the victor. Whatever might the attacker might possess no matter what method he has chosen for starting the nuclear war, he will not achieve his goal."

At present, there is no more important task than defending peace. The Soviet Union is doing everything to strengthen it and to strengthen international detente. But at the same time our nation is forced to keep its powder dry and to be constantly ready to repel the aggressors.

4. To Be Vigilant, To Maintain Constant Combat Readiness

Thus, facts indicate that the present-day international situation which has been made maximally tense by the reactionary imperialist circles, remains complex and taut. In this regard, even more visible and starker for us is the overwhelming significance of that indefatigable and consistent struggle for peace and security of peoples which has been waged by the Leninist party and the Soviet state as well as those new peace initiatives which were proposed at the 26th CPSU Congress and then concretized and supplemented in the subsequent speeches of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev.

The international positions of the Soviet Union are strong and unshakable and its authority on the world scene is high and unchallengable. Friendly relations are constantly growing stronger and cooperation is developing between the USSR and the fraternal socialist nations and the unselfish Soviet aid to these nations in building and defending the new society is growing. Last year provided new evidence of the fact that the USSR is a dependable bulwark of peace and international security and a powerful barrier on the path of the aggressive intrigues of imperialism.

Busy with their peaceful creative labor, the Soviet people look to the future with optimism. They are confident of the defense capabilities of their nation, of the might of its Armed Forces the military potential of which was highly praised at the 26th CPSU Congress. The ideas and theses of the congress on defense questions have been and remain a guide to action for the armed defenders of the motherland.

The main demand of our party and people on the Soviet Armed Forces is to be on guard and to securely defend the peaceful, creative labor of the Soviet people and the victories of socialism. For this the military should be in constant combat readiness. "...The combat readiness of the troops," pointed out Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "mirrors in a concentrated form the enormous efforts and material expenditures of the people to outfit the army, the awareness, combat skill and discipline of all the servicemen, the art of the command personnel in controlling the troops and much else. This, ultimately, is the crown of the military skills of the troops in peacetime and the key to victory in a war" ("Leninskim kursom" [By the Leninist Course], Vol 2, p 49).

Combat readiness first of all presupposes the unflagging vigilance of the personnel and the ability of the motherland's defenders to promptly detect and thwart the actions of forces hostile to us, the military provocations and sabotage of imperialism and its supporters. Vigilance presupposes the strict keeping of military and state secrets. V. I. Lenin admonished the men of the Army and Navy that in a struggle against a perfidious enemy, military discipline and military vigilance brought to the highest levels are essential (see PSS, Vol 39, p 55). This admonishment has been sacredly observed by the personnel of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Vigilance is particularly essential for a soldier while on alert duty. In order to repel a surprise attack by the aggressor, a certain portion of the Soviet troops each day stands alert duty which is the carrying out of a combat task in peacetime. With good reason the servicemen standing alert duty are called the first echelon which would immediately engage the enemy and thwart its plans. It is particularly important for them to have a good knowledge of their functional duties, to study their weapons completely, to be able to fully utilize their combat capabilities and to strictly carry out the requirements of the instructions and regulations.

In order to honorably carry out one's duty to defend the motherland, it is essential to possess good missile, field, air and sea skills. For this it is essential to work hard in exercises and drills, to value training time and to show activeness and tenacity in the course of the socialist competition.

At present a true soldier-patriot is characterized primarily by excellent training, expert mastery of the weapons and military equipment, flawless execution of service duties, high discipline and a constant readiness and ability to act ably and decisive in any situation. The main thing is to learn to be victorious over a strong, technically well equipped and perfidious enemy and to work at full strength, without weaknesses and oversimplification. A tested rule for the men in military and political training should be the demand: study what is needed in a war.

High combat readiness is inconceivable without the maintaining of exemplary military order, organization and discipline. The constant observance of the regulations and irreproachable efficiency based upon a profound awareness by the men of their constitutional duty and their personal responsibility to defend the socialist fatherland should be a law in the life of each soldier and sailor. "In the strengthening of discipline and in indoctrinating the soldier an enormous role is played by the collective," emphasized the USSR Minister of Defense, Mar SU D. F. Ustinov, in his speech at a Komsomol report-election meeting in one of the regiments of the Guards Taman Division. "A man does not live by himself. He is always among people. The

mood and feelings of a soldier, his successes in training and service depend upon the relationships in the collective. The support of a friend, the help of a friend and the confidence of a friend are important under Army and Navy conditions as nowhere else."

Strengthen soldier combat friendship and troop comradeship, the minister of defense wished the soldiers. They will help you overcome any hardships, to strengthen courage and will power and will contribute to successfully carrying out military duty.

At present, the winter training period is in full swing in the troops and fleets. The Soviet military is engaged in intense military work. They are zealously competing under the motto "A Reliable Defense for the Peaceful Labor of the Soviet People!" During this training year, the competition in the Army and Navy is aimed at celebrating the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR with new achievements in military and political training and in raising the combat readiness of the units and ships.

It would be wise if the exercise leader, using specific examples, would show what successes had been achieved by the personnel of the subunit, unit and ship during the previous training year, if he would describe the outstanding men in training and urge the soldiers to equal those who set the pace. By the entire course of expounding the material it is essential to lead the students to the conclusion that the party and the people have entrusted a high and responsible duty to them, that is, to ensure the security of their socialist fatherland and the security of our friends and allies. At the 26th CPSU Congress, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, on behalf of the party Central Committee, expressed firm confidence that the glorious defenders of the motherland in the future would dependably guard the peaceful, creative labor of the Soviet people.

Our military is doing everything within their power to justify this confidence. They are standing combat watches in the frozen Arctic, in the torrid sands of Turkistan, on the shores of the Baltic and the Pacific and as part of the troops stationed on the territory of a number of the European socialist nations and Mongolia. They are providing selfless aid to defend the revolutionary victories of the Afghan people. Everywhere they are worthily carrying out their patriotic and international duty.

The motherland's defenders are unshakably loyal to the cause of the Leninist party and to the cause of October. They vigilantly stand at their battle station and will never allow the aggressive forces of imperialism or their supporters to impede the ongoing advance of our nation toward communism.

For independent reading it is recommended that the students read the following: the works of V. I. Lenin "Imperialism As the Higher Stage of Capitalism" (PSS, Vol 27, pp 387-388); "Letter to the American Workers" (PSS, Vol 37, pp 48-50); the Constitution (Basic Law) of the USSR (Articles 31, 32, 62, 63); the report of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev "Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 26th CPSU Congress and the Next Tasks of the Party in the Area of Domestic and Foreign Policy" ("Materialy XXVI s"yezda KPSS," pp 3-5, 19-31, 66, 79); the report of Comrade D. F. Ustinov at the ceremony devoted to the 64th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution (PRAVDA, 7 November 1981); the third chapter of the textbook "Mir segodnya" [The

World Today] (Voyenizdat, 1979) and the material "To Serve the Motherland in a Leninist Manner" (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 10 December 1981).

In the course of the first seminar (discussion), it is advisable to bring up the following questions: 1. What is the Leninist definition of the basic features of imperialism and its particular features? 2. How has the further exacerbation of the general crisis of capitalism been manifested at the present stage? 3. How did the 26th CPSU Congress describe the present international situation?

At the second seminar (discussion), the following questions can be brought up:

1. Why is imperialism a source of wars and the enemy of the peoples and social progress? 2. How is the aggressive essence of modern imperialism apparent? 3. What are the basic tasks of the personnel in a subunit, unit or ship to further increase combat readiness?

Literature for Propagandists

1. V. I. Lenin, "Imperialism As the Higher Stage of Capitalism," PSS, Vol 27, pp 303-308, 387-388, 420-424.
2. V. I. Lenin, "Imperialism and the Splitting of Socialism," PSS, Vol 30, pp 163-165.
3. "Konstitutsiya (Osnovnoy Zakon) SSSR" [The USSR Constitution (Basic Law)], Chapters 4 and 5.
4. L. I. Brezhnev, "The Cause of Lenin is Alive and Triumphant," "Leninskim kursom," Vol 2, pp 593-603.
5. L. I. Brezhnev, "Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 26th CPSU Congress and the Next Tasks of the Party in the Area of Domestic and Foreign Policy," "Materialy XXVI s"yezda KPSS," pp 3-5, 19-31, 66.
6. L. I. Brezhnev, "Speech at the Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee of 16 November 1981," PRAVDA, 17 November 1981.
7. L. I. Brezhnev, "Replies to Questions from the Editors of the West German Magazine DER SPIEGEL" PRAVDA, 3 November 1981.
8. L. I. Brezhnev, "A Feeling for the Motherland," KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, No 1, 1982.
9. L. I. Brezhnev, "Replies to the American TV Company NBC," PRAVDA, 22 December 1981.
10. "On the Results of the Visit of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev to the FRG," PRAVDA, 1 December 1981.
11. D. F. Ustinov, "Report at a Ceremony Devoted to the 64th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses on 6 November 1981," PRAVDA, 7 November 1981.

12. "To Serve the Motherland in a Leninist Manner," KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 10 December 1981.
13. "Kto komu ugrozhayet. Vymysly vragov sotsializma i deystvitel'nost" [Who Threatens Whom. The Fabrications of the Enemies of Socialism and Reality], Voenizdat, 1981.

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CSO: 1801/196

ARMED FORCES

IMPORTANCE, NEED FOR ECONOMY STATED

Moscow AGITATOR ARMII I FLOTA in Russian No 7, Apr 82 (signed to press 29 Mar 82) pp 8-12

[Article by Lt Gen Intend Serv V. Bab'yev, deputy chief of USSR Ministry of Defense Central Finance Directorate: "For the Agitator's Discussion: Thrift is a Complex Problem"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] In displaying steadfast concern for a further strengthening of national defense, the party Central Committee and Soviet government are devoting constant attention to the technical outfitting and logistical support of the Armed Forces. The Soviet Union possesses a powerful economic potential allowing successful accomplishment of the tasks of further development of the national economy and strengthening of our Motherland's defense might, but no matter what riches we have, we must learn to safeguard and increase the people's property.

The further improvement of all political indoctrination and organizational work is a very important direction in resolving this problem. The task is, as stressed by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in his speech at the 17th USSR trade union congress, /"to reach every working person, make requirements of the party's economic policy close and understandable to him, and show persuasively that this is the policy which meets his vital interests and that therefore it is each person's duty to contribute to its total success through his initiative and creative search."/

This statement by the Communist Party also has a direct relationship to Army and Navy personnel.

Commanders and chiefs at all levels, political workers, and party and Komsomol activists perform extensive indoctrinational work for developing the personnel's feeling of thrift. The indoctrination of all categories of service personnel is aimed at strict and precise observance of Soviet laws, the military oath and regulations obligating the Motherland's defenders to safeguard the people's property in every way.

Among the important measures for preserving and maintaining high reliability of weapons and military equipment is the exemplary upkeep of the motor pool, an extension of time between repairs by increasing the quality of maintenance and repair, an improvement in equipment operation and its timely upkeep, and an increase in the number of rated specialists.

The opinion unfortunately still exists in places that instances where equipment and weapons are disabled due to careless, negligent operation allegedly are insignificant facts against the background of overall achievements of the subunit, military unit or combined unit as a whole. Such an opinion is erroneous. In the present-day troop organism, filled with very sophisticated equipment and crew-served weapons, the laxity or lack of discipline even of one person may do irreparable harm to the common cause.

Thanks to the implementation of social programs in our country occurring on the basis of achievements by developed socialism, the Army and Navy are receiving educated, technically competent young people as replacements. Almost 100 percent of Soviet soldiers have an eighth-grade education. Over 84 percent of draftees already have various specialties and work experience in the national economy. There is a constant increase in the number of technical specialists coming from the rural area. Almost half of the replacements now consist of machine operators.

Such quality in the make-up of draftees allows them to master combat equipment in shorter time periods than before and contributes to its effective operation and the personnel's indoctrination in a thrifty attitude toward socialist property. But we cannot fail to consider, as pointed out by Comrade Brezhnev at the 26th CPSU Congress, that "some young people's education and state of being informed sometimes get along with political naivete, and their professional preparedness is accompanied by an insufficiently responsible attitude toward work." In this connection there is an increase in the demands on indoctrinational work with military personnel, where their activities and inclinations prior to call-up for military service, character traits and habits have to be considered and an improvement made to the content of legal and economic propaganda on safeguarding the people's property. It is very important for the content of indoctrinational work to be connected more closely with troop life and missions, that its forms correspond to present-day needs of Soviet soldiers and the level of their education, political culture and general culture, and that requisite knowledge be presented in a most direct connection with their servicing and upkeep of equipment.

Skillfully organized socialist competition actively contributes to reinforcement of a healthy moral atmosphere in the military collective, care of socialist property and mobilization of internal economic resources. Commanders, political workers, party and Komsomol organizations, and officers of supply and finance services are called upon to see to it that not only the knowledge and skills of personnel are improved in the course of competition, but their moral qualities as well--collectivism, comradely mutual help, and vigorous participation in the struggle for thrift and economy. /This is displayed in mass competition for the right to be called a subunit of thrifty persons and in the competitive review under the motto "Exemplary everyday life for every post./ The patriotic movement entitled "Not one laggard nearby" and sponsorship of less experienced soldiers by competition leaders contributes to the upkeep of socialist property. In addition to attainment of economic goals, this movement has become an important means for communist indoctrination of personnel and a positive influence on troop combat readiness and the status of military discipline and economy in things large and small.

The military unit in which Officer V. Orzheshko serves (in the Order of Lenin Moscow Military District) can serve as an example of this. For a number of years here there has not been a premature write-off of weapons or military equipment, or losses of military property and other physical assets, and intelligent initiative is displayed in improving the everyday life of personnel with minimum monetary expenditures. Thanks to a thrifty attitude toward clothing property and its prompt high-quality repair, it has become possible to refrain from drawing foam rubber mattresses and wadded pillows from the district depot for two years and to extend the service life of boots by six months. They are using their own resources to make bedside rugs, slippers and mattress pads out of unserviceable clothing property. There is a zealous approach to everything in the clothing service headed by Officer N. Tverdokhlebov. Even those objects written off as rags are strictly accounted for. A brick animal husbandry complex was built here with their own resources. It holds more than 200 head of hogs, calves and cattle. There are hothouses as well as a kitchen garden of over seven hectares. The yearly saving on grain is some 40 tons.

The awareness and initiative of privates, NCO's, warrant officers and officers is clearly displayed here in socialist competition, which has become an important incentive and an inalienable part of combat and political training and of the entire indoctrination process.

An economic conference of this unit, held under the motto "Economy and thrift is everyone's concern" summed up results of economic work for a number of years, uncovered unused reserves, recognized socialist competition leaders and demonstrated their work forms and methods and the results obtained.

The struggle for rational use of supplies is one of the directions of the nationwide movement which unfolded in the land after the 26th CPSU Congress for thrift and economy and the safekeeping of socialist property. Army and Navy personnel are taking an active part in it.

In this regard we can tell about the motor transport company commanded by Officer M. Kravchenko (Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District) as an example. All the personnel here made specific socialist pledges for saving gasoline, oils and lubricants. As a result some drivers are saving 10 liters of gasoline a day each. The company Komsomol organization joined in this movement actively. Komsomol meetings always hold a concrete discussion about progress in fulfilling socialist pledges, uncover shortcomings and outline ways for remedying them. For example, on servicing days some drivers were using gasoline for other than the intended purpose in servicing vehicles, especially in winter. As a result there were considerable losses of fuel and violation of safety precautions. These and similar instances of waste received a fundamental evaluation at a Komsomol meeting. The Komsomol members' efforts, supported by the company commander, produced good results. In just a month after the meeting the saving in gasoline increased to two percent. The demand on Komsomol members for the technical condition and operation of vehicles and for observance of military discipline became stricter. Steps were taken for broader popularization of the work methods of right-flankers of socialist competition.

At the same time it should be recognized that /it is not yet everywhere that the experience of foremost persons promptly becomes the property of all personnel. This occurs because in places there is no daily concern shown for its dissemination and extensive publicity of competition is not always supported. We cannot be reconciled with these shortcomings./

Much can be done in this matter by propagandists, agitators, political briefers, people's controllers and other activists of the Army public. They are called upon to explain to personnel clearly and persuasively the substance of success achieved and its effectiveness. To this end we have to use the rostrums of personnel meetings, meetings of party-economic activists, and rallies of persons outstanding in combat and political training, and appear at economic and technical conferences and in the pages of wall newspapers and operational newsheets. It is very /important not only that particular achievements be announced and facts and figures given, but also that their content and importance in raising troop combat readiness and economic effect be revealed./

In noting successes in the struggle for upkeep of socialist property we also cannot refrain from mentioning the shortcomings in this work. Some military units still allow losses and shortages of fuel, food, and clothing, motor vehicle-tractor, light-technical and other military property. There are many instances of a careless attitude toward messhall dishes, barracks property and furniture.

Supply losses sometimes are committed by undisciplined persons and carriers of antisocial views. But this is facilitated to no small extent by shortcomings in accounting for military property, control over its expenditure, selection of cadres for appointment to positions of materially responsible persons, and violation of dates for performing inspections and audits of economic and technical services. This obligates us /to direct special attention toward intensifying control and performing legal indoctrination work among service personnel, above all among those serving apart from the unit in separate commands, logistic subunits and construction subunits./ Experience indicates that supply losses are allowed here more often.

A considerable loss comes from so-called petty losses and misappropriation of physical assets. A soldier breaks a spoon, breaks a window through carelessness, damages a faucet, cuts his initials in a table or loses clothing property items and as a result inflicts material loss on the state. But these facts often are not investigated, the reasons and conditions for their appearance are not uncovered and these misdeeds are not given a fundamental appraisal. A resolute struggle, which must be reflected in mass political work, has to be conducted against such negative phenomena. Party and Komsomol organizations and people's control groups have to take an active part in this matter.

Not one serviceman who has done material damage must avoid responsibility to the party or Komsomol organization and the Army public and, if necessary, must come under stricter measures of influence.

/To instil a thrifty attitude toward the people's property means to use all forms and methods of ideological indoctrination work to elevate the personnel's awareness and irreconcilability toward mismanagement and waste, and to explain in detail the importance of a regime of thrift and of Soviet laws aimed at protecting socialist property./

Thrift is not just an economic concept, but a moral one as well. It is the duty of party organizations and all activists of verbal political agitation to develop in military personnel a feeling of being a zealous proprietor, to be concerned with improving their military proficiency, and to popularize and adopt experience of foremost military collectives in the practice of socialist competition among Army and Navy personnel.

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CSO: 1801/205

GROUND FORCES

AIRBORNE BATTALION ACTIVITIES IN 'ZAPAD-81' EXERCISE

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 1, Jan 82 (signed to press 22 Dec 81) pp 52-56

[Article by Capt A. Oliynik: "In the Ranks of the Attackers"]

[Text] The men of the airborne battalion under the command of Gds Capt A. Bespalov performed skillfully at the "Zapad-81" [West-81] exercise. In a complex modern combat situation, they successfully accomplished their mock combat missions. Achievement of success was promoted in large measure by purposeful party-political work on the part of the commander, political worker, and all Communists in the subunit.

The outlines of transport aircraft were barely visible in the darkness on the flight line of the forest-surrounded temporary airfield. The Il'yushins looked like drowsy birds with their feathers ruffled up. Silence reigned. But this impression was deceptive. We (the author of this article and airborne troops political section officers Cols L. Starchenko and V. Borisevich) knew that an airborne battalion was assembled alongside the airfield. A city of tents stood along the forest edge, and combat equipment, lashed down for loading on board aircraft, and containers with personnel parachutes were dispersed-sited in natural cover. The paratroopers were hard at work here, in spite of the fact that it was in the dead of night. They were working swiftly, but noiselessly. All measures had been taken to ensure that the "aggressor's" air and radar reconnaissance could not detect the assault force: radio silence was being observed, and no fires were lit.

When we arrived at the field, final preparations prior to boarding the aircraft were in progress. In the floodlight beams, which picked out of the darkness even ranks of soldiers carrying parachute packs, the paratroopers were somehow reminiscent of fairy-tale heroes. And the fact is that they were about to carry out a fairy-tale plot: to appear suddenly to the "enemy's" rear, to plunge down on him from the sky, stunning him with their boldness, daring, and resoluteness.

Paratrooper service officers, headed by Gds Lt Col L. Varchenko, stood at the start line, inspecting the paratroopers' chutes, checking harness fits, weapons and gear. Battalion Communists were also on the spot. They were talking with the men and explaining the assigned mission.

We approached one of the groups. The battalion deputy commander for political affairs, Gds Sr Lt A. Kiselev, was giving instructions to party and Komsomol activists. The activists had met prior to this on several occasions to discuss the forms and methods of party-political work in the period of preparation for an airborne assault. But this was a special instruction session. Designated party group organizers and group agitators were receiving paratrooper instruction pamphlets, leaflets, and other instructional literature. The flight would be a long one; the paratroopers would be able to read everything.

"Together with the jumpmasters, arrange for the paratroopers to meet the aircrews," the political worker reminded the activists. "Request that the aircraft commanders tell you about the specific features of the flight, and you are to promptly inform the men by aircraft intercom, as was the case during previous jumps.

"And you," Guards Senior Lieutenant Kiselev turned to subunit Komsomol bureau secretary Gds WO M. Valyukevich, "have a special assignment. Keep an eye on the novices. Try not to let them out of your sight. Help the jumpmaster place the men in the aircraft in such a manner that an experienced paratrooper is sitting next to each novice."

A broad-shouldered officer wearing a camouflage suit walked away from another group of paratroopers. By his bold stride we recognized regimental party committee secretary Gds Maj V. Vyrodov. We had met him at the political section on the previous day. At that time Viktor Grigor'yevich, briefly discussing the battalion collective and briefing us on what had been done by party committee members to prepare the subunit for the combat training mission, issued us an invitation: "Why don't you fly with us? You will see what the battalion is capable of accomplishing."

And now we were meeting him again.

"Bespalov's men are fine lads," said Viktor Grigor'yevich on greeting us, with obvious satisfaction. It seemed that he was not at all surprised to see me, also ready for the flight. "They have done a fine job preparing for the assault. Everybody is in an enthusiastic mood."

His glance stopped on my parachute harness.

"You had better tighten your chest strap, or you will get quite a jolt when your canopy opens."

He immediately corrected the problem with adroit movements and adjusted the flexible hose on my reserve chute.

"Everything is fine now," the secretary smiled approvingly, but in the next instance his face showed concern.

"I am going to speak to the battalion Communists to make sure that everything has been done...."

The inspection was completed.

"Board your aircraft!"

We climbed a ramp into our aircraft. The cargo hatch door closed. The Il'yushins taxied out to the runway in single file.

...We lifted off. The paratroopers' faces were visible in the semidarkness. I looked closely into their faces and tried to divine what was going on in each man's mind. I was nervous. But how about them? Externally they all appeared calm. But obviously some of them were already experiencing concern, both for themselves and for their comrades. I knew from my own experience: no matter how many jumps you make, every time you wonder about how the jump will go, and what awaits you down there, on ground occupied by the "aggressor."

When it was learned that the battalion would be taking part in the exercise, the following became one of the main tasks of the subunit commander, political worker, and activists: how best to organize party-political work in the field. It was decided to hold a party meeting with the agenda "On the Responsibility of Communists for High-Quality Preparation of the Battalion for the Exercise." They painstakingly and thoroughly prepared for it. They turned to experience in organization of party-political work at exercises held previously. They determined deficiencies in preparing paratroopers for jumping. Each Communist endeavored to introduce suggestions into the draft resolution.

The battalion commander presented a report at the meeting. He presented a strict appraisal of the activities of party members and probationary members and emphasized that each Communist should have a demanding approach toward himself and others and should not permit carelessness or lack of discipline. The commander was warmly supported by all speakers. They shared ideas on how best to accomplish the assigned mission. They drew particular attention to personal exemplariness by Communists and their ability to influence the men by word and deed.

Party members spoke with concern about the difficulties of preparing for an exercise. Company commander Gds Sr Lt Yu. Krivosheyev, for example, expressed apprehension about how the novices would conduct themselves in "combat." There were many novices in the companies, some of whom had only made a few jumps.

Gds Maj A. Grafov, deputy battalion commander for airborne training, suggested holding an additional several ground training classes and organizing exchange of experience by the top specialists for the benefit of the novices. Other Communists also made a number of practical suggestions. They then energetically set about their implementation. The experience of leading personnel, in particular top driver-mechanics Gds Jr Sgt V. Kramarenko, Gds Pfc A. Popov and P. Belov, and Gds Pvt A. Solodkiy, was disseminated with the assistance of Kommol activists.

The battalion Communists took active part in holding a conference on airborne training which was held in the unit. It was first conducted at the club, and subsequently at the airborne training facility, where the top paratroopers

demonstrated how to work on elements of the jump on simulators and how to perform exercises on the [Rein] wheel and the rotating swing, [loping].

"The sky does not forgive mistakes," war veteran Col V. Lyakov stated in his address at the conference. "There are no trivial matters in our business. It would seem that parachute jumping is a simple matter, but everything is important here -- leaving the aircraft, controlling the canopy, and landing...."

He discussed the conditions in which the jumps would be executed and the specific peculiarities of jumping from an Il-76 aircraft. The paratroopers listened attentively to what this war veteran had to say, whose military labor has been honored by award five times of the Order of the Red Star. Lyakhov has made more than 1000 jumps.

This was not the only activity with the participation of war veterans, who played an appreciable role in getting the men in a mood where they were ready for combat. When the battalion took to the field, a get-together between the paratroopers and Lt Col (Res) K. Pershikov was organized at the field camp on the initiative of party bureau secretary Gds Capt A. Rodichev. The unit veteran told of the drop of a large assault force in 1943 onto the right bank of the Dnieper, and about the boldness and courage displayed by the winged infantrymen who fought on a small beachhead totally encircled by the enemy. This combat veteran read to the men a message from paratrooper veterans of the Great Patriotic War, veterans of the Airborne Troops and of the regiment. None of them could remain indifferent to such words in the appeal as follows: "Guardsmen! Value the combat fame of your unit. Remember that wherever the winged guard attacks, the enemy will be unable to hold, and wherever the winged guard defends, the enemy will not pass."

On the eve of the exercise Komsomol meetings were held in the battalion sub-units with the agenda "Perform in the field as in actual combat, as a guardsman should." These meetings, in the preparation for which Communists took part, helped boost the men's morale and focused them toward bold, decisive actions.

On the day preceding the drop, pilots and paratroopers gathered for an evening of combat friendship. Military Pilot 1st Class Col Yu. Lipuntsov, Lt Col A. Pavlov, and Maj Z. Ziganshin related the combat history of their unit, told the paratroopers about combat traditions, the best crews, and about competition right-flankers.

The fighting friends exchanged letters of appeal on this evening. Here is what the paratroopers wrote: "Dear comrade aviators! Prior to the tactical exercise we made tough socialist pledges and resolved to perform in the field just as the combat veterans performed during the war years. Successful accomplishment of all missions will be the finest soldier's gift to the homeland. We assure you, comrades, that we shall not let you down. We are prepared to travel any distance on the wings of the aircraft, plunge down from the sky boldly and fearlessly onto the 'aggressor' and achieve victory in 'battle'."

I remember the following from the appeal-letter of the military transport aviation pilots: "The aviators pledge to demonstrate at the exercise excellent

flying skill and to execute the drop with precision, into the specified drop zones and on schedule...."

...The aircraft's turbines were roaring smoothly. The staging area was now far behind. We were flying in thick clouds. From time to time the clouds would disappear for a moment, and bright sunlight would flood the ports. Our IL banked into a turn and proceeded to descend. I felt a lump in my throat. My nerves were as taut as a bowstring.

My neighbor, Gds WO M. Samokhin, nudged me and handed me a leaflet, communicating with his eyes: read it and pass it on.

"Guards paratrooper," the leaflet stated, "you are flying right now above that site where in July 1941 the 214th Airborne Brigade, under the command of Col A. Levashov, took up position in the path of the fascists who were advancing on Minsk. In the heavy, bloody fighting our paratroopers displayed total dedication to the homeland, bravery, a will to win, and mass heroism. Be worthy of their feat!"

I passed the sheet on to my neighbor. After reading it, he in turn passed it on to his neighbor. I saw the men's faces grow stern as they read these moving lines.

Guards Major Vyrodov was walking down the aircraft between the rows of paratroopers, planting his feet in a wide stance. With a piercing, practiced gaze he was inspecting each paratrooper's gear to determine that everything was in place and that the carbines were properly secured to the line. As he went along, he did not forget to give encouragement to the paratroopers: he would place a hand on the shoulder in a fatherly manner, and he would give a friendly smile. His message was: don't be scared, soldier!

Guards Major Vyrodov has served almost 20 years in the airborne troops. He has made approximately 200 jumps from aircraft of various types, and he well understands what is going on at this moment inside each soldier, when the moment is close at hand when one must step out into the void. I know from my own experience how important for a person during these moments is the assistance and friendly concern of an experienced paratrooper. Therefore on the eve of the jump Communists were assigned in a uniform distribution among all aircraft, just as was specified by the party-political work plan.

Viktor Grigor'yevich stopped next to Gds Pvt V. Khorunzhiy. Carefully inspecting his main and reserve parachutes, he touched the soldier on the shoulder: "Good man! You have prepared for the jump excellently!"

One could see by the young soldier's face that he was having trouble maintaining control of himself, but he was able to smile and cheer up a bit. The other paratroopers approached by the party secretary also perked up.

The lead ship began its run into the drop zone. The "Stand By" sign lit up above the hatch. The doors opened -- we would be jumping two at a time. The four rows of paratroopers stood up in unison and took their places: right hand

on the ripcord ring, and left hand on the reserve. We awaited the command.

The sign "Jump!" lit up. Party members V. Achalov and P. Shemetilo were the first to jump, with the paratroopers advancing swiftly in unison toward the hatch in their wake, parachute to parachute. The loud shouts of "Geronimo!" drowned out the wail of the siren and the roar of the turbines.

It was my turn. A last three rapid strides forward, and the powerful airstream threw me downward, under the aircraft's wing. I felt my heart in my throat. I gave a healthy jerk on the ripcord ring -- the percale canopy erupted in a white flame before my eyes. The painful feeling of alarm changed to overpowering delight. Every man must be experiencing this at that time.

The paratrooper's first position is under the parachutes canopy. It was still quite a distance to the ground, but assault rifles were already barking away -- the forward detachment was "fighting" to capture the landing zone right from the air.

"Your reserve, use your reserve!" I heard the voice of company commander Gds Sr Lt Yu. Kondratyuk.

Not too far away, in a sky dotted with deployed canopies, two paratroopers were plunging swiftly earthward. But suddenly a third canopy flashed above the soldiers. On the ground we learned that the slipstream had thrown Gds Jr Sgt A. Uporov right onto the canopy of Gds Pvt L. Manokha. Both parachutes began to collapse. At this point one of the paratroopers, Gds Pfc L. Manokha, kept his head and opened his reserve parachute. He saved both himself and his comrade, Gds Jr Sgt A. Uporov. Both courageous paratroopers were presented to the USSR minister of defense. Mar SU D. F. Ustinov presented an inscribed watch to these brave soldiers. Subsequently these valient servicemen were awarded the Order of the Red Star by ukase of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

But all this would take place later.... A dull impact -- I had landed. Alongside me the paratroopers, swiftly freeing themselves from their harness, went into "battle." In place of steel helmets they were wearing blue berets (when had they managed to put them on?). They brought assault rifles and machineguns into play, chattering noisily and spouting flame. The ferocious guards shout "Ura!" crescendoed above the landing zone.

The aircraft carrying the equipment appeared overhead. Within seconds equipment was swaying back and forth under the white multiple-canopy parachute rigs. A large percentage of the pallets were descending quite rapidly, employing combination parachute and rocket-braking systems. As they approached the ground, bright flames flashed and explosions resounded -- the special devices which ensure combat vehicles a soft landing were actuating.

I stopped to catch my breath.

"Keep moving!" shouted party committee secretary Guards Major Vyrodiv, running past me. A group of paratroopers was running at his heels.

A combat vehicle with the identification number 864 was moving swiftly across the sand dunes. The face of Gds Sr Lt A. Bobkov, who had been accepted to CPSU membership on the eve of the exercise, appeared for a moment in the commander's hatch. This officer was, as they say, validating by deed the trust of the battalion Communists. He had worked very hard during preparations for the exercise. And during the airborne assault he also performed boldly, displaying to his men an example in all things.

The "aggressor"-occupied hill shuddered from shellbursts delivered by the attacking force; an armored juggernaut swept forward, followed by a heavy line of paratroopers. Guards Major Vyrodiv, Guards Captain Ilichkin, and Guards Senior Lieutenant Kiselev were running out in front of the attacking troopers. The young soldiers were trying to keep up with them. Their actions were becoming increasingly more confident and their fire more accurate. The companies of the forward detachment were advancing toward the cover lines without a halt. Under their onslaught, the "aggressor" was retreating toward the distant forest.

Later, when the main forces of the airborne assault force "engaged," the men of the battalion under the command of Gds Capt A. Besspalov had occasion to withstand many tests of combat maturity. They passed these tests with honor, because they were well trained, and also because Communists were uniting them and leading them into "battle."

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CSO: 1801/109

AIR DEFENSE FORCES

REVIEW OF BOOK ON WARTIME AIR DEFENSE FORCES

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 2, Jan 82 (signed to press 5 Jan 82) pp 91-92

[Review by Candidate of Historical Sciences, Col M. Bol'shakov of the book "Voyska PVO strany v Velikoy Otechestvennoy voyne 1941-1945" (The National Air Defense Troops in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945), Voenizdat, 1981, 374 pages]

[Text] The difficult time of the Great Patriotic War retreats farther and farther into history. The destroyed cities and villages have long been rebuilt and the wounds healed. But the memory of the feat of the Soviet people and their soldiers who routed fascism is alive and will never die. The best works of historical, memoir and fictional literature provide an opportunity for the readers to step back across the barrier of years and more profoundly understand the greatness of the feat of our people and the USSR Armed Forces.

In the chronicle of the heroic past of the Soviet motherland, a worthy place will be taken by the brief descriptive work "Voyska PVO strany v Velikoy Otechestvennoy voyne 1941-1945" which has been prepared by a group of authors. The main merit of the book is the very rich factual material drawn from the archives and periodic press and describing the terrible days of fighting and the valor and courage of the air defense troops, including pilots, antiaircraft gunners, specialists of the VNOS [aircraft warning] service and searchlight operators.

The book day by day traces the life and activities of the air defense units over the three periods of the Great Patriotic War. For each section of research an introductory part has been written where the combat experience of the Air Defense Troops has been generalized in a condensed form. The chronicle of events and facts is given in an order which makes it possible to have a rather complete notion of the enormous organizational and ideological-indoctrinational work carried out by the party, the State Defense Committee [GKO] and Headquarters, Supreme High Command [HqSHC] to strengthen and develop the Air Defense Troops, to employ these troops in strategic offensive and defensive operations and to improve their organizational structure, combat control and cooperation with the other Armed Services. Using specific examples, the diverse activities of the commanders and political workers are shown in indoctrinating courageous and able defenders of the motherland.

The first section of the chronicle takes up the events in the summer-autumn campaign of 1941. Nazi Germany, having treacherously violated the nonaggression treaty concluded with the USSR, threw against the world's first socialist state a multimillion-strong invasion army supported from the air by thousands of aircraft. Four out of the five air fleets of the Nazi Luftwaffe were deployed for the attack on the Soviet Union. Hence one can see what a role was to be played by our nation's air defenses for thwarting the plan to conduct a "blitzkrieg."

During the prewar years, the book points out, the Communist Party and the Soviet government devoted constant attention to strengthening the defense capability of the Soviet state, including to developing the Air Defense Troops, to supplying them with an ever-increasing amount of weapons and military equipment and to improving their organizational structure in accord with the development of air attack weapons abroad. However, the reorganization of the air defense system was not completely carried out by the start of the war. It continued to develop in the course of combat operations to repel Nazi aggression considering combat experience.

In improving the air defense system an important role was played by the Decree "On Strengthening and Reinforcing the Air Defenses of Soviet Territory" adopted by the GKO on 9 November 1941. The centralizing of control of the Air Defense Troops from the top to the bottom made it possible to flexibly and promptly resolve all the questions of air defenses for installations and to broadly maneuver the resources.

Using specific factual material, the authors show that the Air Defense Troops in the first period of the war, in cooperation with the fighter aviation and antiaircraft artillery forces of the fronts and fleets, prevented the destruction of the nation's administrative-political and industrial centers and lines of communications by the Nazi aviation, they ensured the planned operation of the national economic enterprises and caused great losses to the enemy. In 1941-1942, the enemy lost 4,652 aircraft. In addition, the Air Defense Troops destroyed a significant number of enemy tanks. All of this to a significant degree helped to create the prerequisites for a fundamental change in the course of the war.

The reviewed work takes up events and facts showing the significant contribution of the Air Defense Troops to achieving military successes in the second period of the Great Patriotic War. In carrying out the basic task of defending the major administrative-political centers, industrial areas, the lines of communications of the operational army and other important objectives against enemy air attack, the Air Defense Troops took an active part in all the offensive operations of our fronts, in destroying encircled enemy groupings and in eliminating enemy airborne and raiding parties.

As a result of the numerous battles and engagements of the Nazi aviation, the Air Defense Troops over 1943 destroyed 1,615 enemy aircraft. In the Stalingrad and Kursk battles, in the period of breaking through the Leningrad blockade and in repelling enemy air raids on the defended installations, the personnel of the air defense units showed high military skill, courage and valor.

The materials and documents included in the chronicle shed light on the activities of the Air Defense Troops in the concluding period of the struggle against Nazi Germany and its satellites. The Supreme High Command as before did not cancel the mission of defending the major centers from the air. By this time our troops had

acquired enormous combat experience. The air defense system of Moscow, Leningrad, Baku and Gor'kiy had become more advanced. For the air defense of liberated cities such as Kiev, Minsk, Riga, Vilnius, L'vov and Odessa, 2-3-fold more air defense weapons were allocated than in 1941. More than 50 percent of the fighters and medium-caliber antiaircraft weapons and around 70 percent of the antiaircraft searchlights were concentrated on defending the most important political and economic centers of the nation.

Because of the rapid advance of the Soviet Army to the west, the depth of the territory defended by the Air Defense Troops increased greatly. For more flexible control of the units and formations and for their close cooperation with the fronts, in 1944, in the place of the previously existing two front-level air defense field forces (the Western and Eastern), four air defense fronts were organized: the Northern, Central, Southern and Transcaucasian.

In the summer-autumn period of the 1944 campaign, the Soviet Armed Forces, having crushed the enemy front, opened up the path to the capital of Nazi Germany. In line with this, the authors show the increased role of the Air Defense Troops in providing a cover for the lines of communications of the fronts, for the important areas and installations on the liberated territory. Five corps of the Air Defense Troops were shifted outside the nation. In the Berlin Operation, cooperation was organized among the air defense units and their counterparts from the First Ukrainian, First and Third Belorussian fronts not only for installations but also for areas of operations. The air defense resources of the fronts covered the advancing troops while the national air defense formations covered the rear installations of the fronts, the lines of communications and crossings over water barriers.

The data, information and documents given in the book confirm that the Air Defense Troops in the third period of the war successfully carried out their combat tasks. They destroyed 1,045 enemy aircraft.

All sections of the chronicle give examples of effective party political work. This was carried out on the basis of the decisions of the Communist Party Central Committee and ensured a daily party influence on the combat activities of the troops and the strengthening of their morale and battleworthiness.

The communists and Komsomol members were the basic force unifying the personnel in the struggle against the enemy. During the war years a good custom was established in many air defense units. In the party and Komsomol meetings they summed up the results of each battle, they discussed the actions of the men and generalized the experience of fighting against enemy aviation. The batteries and companies held party and Komsomol meetings with an agenda of "The Results of Battles Against the Nazi Invaders and Providing an Example Set by the Communists (Komsomol Members)." Such meetings indoctrinated the personnel in a spirit of responsibility to the motherland and mobilized them for a decisive defeat of the enemy. The communists marched in the front ranks, by their heroic deeds and strong faith in the rightness of the party's cause they tempered the will of the soldiers for victory and taught them to rout the Nazis once and for all. For this reason the nonparty soldiers endeavored to be like the communists and expressed an ardent desire to join the Communist Party. The more difficult the situation was, the greater the influx of leading soldiers into the party. Thus, in the units of the I Air Defense Corps

which defended Moscow, when the most difficult battles against the air enemy were underway, some 1,728 persons joined the party. The total number of communists in the corps over the first half year of the war increased by 3-fold and the number of Komsomol members rose by over 2-fold. By the start of November 1941, there were over 120,000 communists alone in the ranks of the defenders of the Moscow skies.

Unfortunately, and this must be said, in the book there are errors in the description of individual events and facts. Thus, on p 293 it states that on 26 April 1944, "the units of the X Air Defense Corps began to carry out the combat tasks of supporting the air blockade of the surrounded enemy troops in the region of Breslau...." This could only have been in 1945. In certain places the names of aircraft have been given incorrectly. However, these inaccuracies do not challenge the scientific and practical value of the brief chronicle. The concrete combat experience of the Air Defense Troops generalized by the authors can be employed by commanders and political workers in training and indoctrinating the personnel considering the changes which have occurred in military affairs.

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CSO: 1801/196

NAVAL FORCES

BLACK SEA FLEET COMMANDER ON TRAINING TASKS, RESULTS

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 1, Jan 82 (signed to press 22 Dec 81) pp 45-51

[Article by Adm N. Khovrin, commander, Red-Banner Black Sea Fleet: "Proceeding from the Demands of Modern Combat"]

[Text] Combat and political training, as well as all the activities of personnel of the Black Sea Fleet take place under the beneficial influence of the decisions of the 26th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the November (1981) CPSU Central Committee Plenum, and the Sixth Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The men of the Black Sea Fleet are working with great patriotic enthusiasm, generated by the grandiose plans of economic and social development of our country, and have become actively engaged in socialist competition to honor in a worthy manner the 60th anniversary of the USSR under the slogan "Reliable Defense of the Peaceful Labor of the Soviet People!" They enthusiastically and unanimously approve of the wise policy of the Leninist Party and have adopted as a guide to action the points and conclusions of the brilliant, deeply content-filled speech by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the November CPSU Central Committee Plenum. Officers, warrant officers, petty officers, noncommissioned officers and enlisted personnel are filled with resolve to carry out with even greater persistence the demands of the congress and the tasks of further increasing vigilance and combat readiness specified by the USSR minister of defense.

In all our training and indoctrination activities we are aware of the complexity of the international and military-political situation and the increased aggressive aspirations of imperialism. The NATO countries and their accomplices are waging an active ideological struggle against the USSR and the other socialist nations and are attempting to secure military superiority for themselves. The United States has made the decision to produce neutron weapons, is seeking to deploy new intermediate-range missiles in Europe, and is building up its forces in the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean, and the Persian Gulf. Bearing this fact in mind, fleet command and political personnel seek to develop in the men of the Black Sea Fleet an attitude that the military danger proceeding from imperialism is a harsh reality of our time, and to indoctrinate them in a spirit of great vigilance and readiness at any moment to come to the defense of the national interests of the homeland.

One can state with complete confidence that in the course of implementation of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the campaign for high intensiveness and effectiveness of combat and political training has become the main thrust in the activities of commanders, political agencies, staffs, party and Komsomol organizations. Continuing to be a determining element in the combat training of fleet forces is its persistent approximation to the actual conditions of today's combat, improvement in the sea proficiency of personnel and improvement in their tactical and weapon training. As a rule combat training is conducted in a combined manner, on a bilateral basis, with utilization of all types of weapons, technical and radioelectronic devices available on our warships, and definitely with active "aggressor" countermeasures. Training systems and simulators are being employed more extensively than in the past for improving the job performance of specialists of the various categories.

Progress is promoted by practical adoption of previously amassed positive experience into organizational and political indoctrination work. As a result of an innovative approach by commanders, political agencies and staffs toward the conduct of combat and political training, the personnel of the overwhelming majority of warships and units succeeded in the last training year in improving the quality of solving training course and weapon fire problems, as well as achieving definite success in mastering weapons and equipment and the tactics of modern combat. The majority of combat exercises were performed with the award of marks of excellent and good, and many tactical exercises were held. The men of the submarine unit in which Capt 3d Rank V. Biryukov serves, of the combined unit of surface ships in which Capt 2d Rank V. Moskalev serves as deputy commander, of the aviation unit which until recently was under the command of Col Yu. Lazarev, a naval infantry unit, and a number of other fleet collectives have raised their proficiency to a higher level.

Following the example of leading performers, commanders, political agencies, staffs, party and Komsomol organizations are learning skilled utilization of reserve potential to improve the efficiency and quality of the training and indoctrination process, comprehensive resolution of problems of forming in personnel an active life position and a responsible attitude toward carrying out their military duty, guaranteeing concreteness, a businesslike nature and effectiveness of socialist competition, and strengthening discipline and organization. Officers, and particularly Communists, have an innovative approach toward implementing training schedules, comprehensively analyze and consider the conditions which promote development of combat teamwork and cooperation on the part of subunits and warships, display firmness, high principledness, uncompromisingness, and resolutely combat deficiencies which diminish the enthusiasm and performance results of personnel training.

There are also military collectives in the fleet, however, which have not succeeded in achieving stable results in improving combat skill. There are a number of reasons for this, the majority of which are by no means of an objective nature. Discussing this in detail at an enlarged meeting of the military council devoted to totaling up performance results of the past training year, we reached an unequivocal conclusion: the main reason for the fact that certain ships and subunits were lagging behind in performance was elements of unnecessary relaxation of demands and simplifications in organization and conduct of

command and political training, as well as complacency on the part of certain leader-Communists, including at the headquarters echelon.

Let us take, for example, an incident which occurred on board the escort ship "Razitel'nyy." The crew was assigned the task of firing at an air target. Immediately prior to putting out to sea, unit staff officers, in violation of regulations pertaining to firing exercises, informed the ship's commanding officer and weapon crews about the aircraft approach and target launch time. This eliminated the element of surprise. Of course the firing exercise proved successful, but the training objective was not achieved, since the situation failed to reflect the dynamics of actual combat. Consequently the men failed to become enriched with skills of combating a powerful adversary. Unfortunately the unit headquarters party organization, the job of which is boldly to combat unnecessary situation simplifications and other deficiencies in combat training, failed to respond to this incident in a principled manner.

"Nothing has such a negative effect on troop tactical training," stated USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, "as unnecessary relaxation of demands and situation simplification in combat training. They create in personnel erroneous ideas about modern combat, impede development of excellent fighting qualities in personnel, and limit innovativeness. Training troops in a complex and stressful situation, in conditions maximally approximating actual combat, is an immutable law of excellent combat readiness, and it must be rigorously observed." We must confess that certain officers do not always have the ability to organize training of subordinates precisely in such a manner, which does detriment to its effectiveness and quality.

Indeed, all our commanders know that in today's combat they will encounter a strong, wily and resourceful adversary. Utilizing the power of his weapons and equipment, including the most advanced weaponry, he will endeavor to achieve superiority. What must be brought to bear against the enemy? The strength and power of our own weapons, created by the intellect and labor of the Soviet people, multiplied by the combat skill and indomitable morale of our servicemen, which are polished and honed in the process of combat and political training. Each hour of training time and each training mission at sea should be utilized for specialists to master modern weapon systems and technical devices, to perfect effective tactical devices, methods of teamwork and cooperation among the diversified forces, etc. Each exercise and combat drill should promote the moral-psychological conditioning of personnel. Commanders and staffs, political agencies, party and Komsomol organizations are called upon to work daily to ensure a high degree of intensity and effectiveness of combat training. They should seek to achieve the goal by increasing first and foremost the sense of responsibility and methods skills of its organizers -- officers, warrant officers, petty officers, and noncommissioned officers.

Some people forget about this, however. At times training classes and drills in one's military occupational specialty, action drills and limited exercises are conducted by poorly prepared leaders, and therefore fail to produce adequate results. Sometimes sea exercises are conducted on board certain warships on a simplified tactical background, while combat exercises are conducted in a simple

environmental situation in order to obtain a higher mark. Utilization of obsolete methods and devotion on the part of certain officers to an accustomed scheme and lack of originality in working on combat training tasks are nothing other than unnecessary relaxation of demands and situation simplification.

In one instance the reasons for these deficiencies lie in errors of omission in planning combat training both on board ship and at headquarters, due to a lack of conscientiousness or poor tactical and methods preparedness on the part of certain leader personnel. In another case they are engendered by a lack of demandingness and weakness of verification on the part of senior-echelon commanders and the existence of gaps in the commander training of officers. In still other instances they are a consequence of poor effectiveness of political indoctrination work with personnel and the lack of strict demandingness by party organizations on Communists for carrying out their military and party duty and execution of measures specified by plans and decisions adopted at meetings.

We must state that the fleet military council, political directorate and headquarters, political agencies and headquarters of the units and combined units are waging a campaign against unnecessary relaxation of demands and situation simplification in combat and political training and are endeavoring to eradicate their causes. A party-mindedly sharp, high-principled assessment is made of such facts. In all cases we endeavor not to limit ourselves merely to punishment of a given individual responsible for such errors of omission. The party constantly warns us against such an ineffective indoctrinational practice. It is important that not only the person who has made a mistake recognize it but also that other leader personnel receive an object lesson for the future.

The following example is characteristic in this connection. Fleet staff officers discovered an unseemly fact in the course of inspecting a certain unit. During performance of a training task on the ship on which officer A. Polyanin serves, the crew made a number of departures from the demands of regulations. In spite of this fact, it received a good mark.

This incident was severely censured at a meeting of the fleet military council. It was stressed that such deficiencies and the thoughtlessness with which certain officers violate the requirements of guideline documents and nonobjectively assess the quality of performance of tasks attest to the absence of a political approach to things and to gaps in indoctrinational work. It was also noted that on some warships organizers of socialist competition, in directing the men's efforts toward meeting pledges, focus attention only on the quantitative aspect of things, ignoring the fact that the main thing in the military competition among personnel should be a campaign to achieve high-quality performance of combat training tasks and combat exercises and attainment of high end results in improving combat readiness.

Unquestionably the high-principled discussion at the meeting of the military council and appropriate indoctrinational work carried out at headquarters and in political agencies served as a lesson for command and political leader personnel.

An effective form of combating unnecessary relaxation of demands and situation simplification in training is a monthly totaling of combat and political training performance results at the fleet level. Organization and methodology of totaling up results promote increased responsibility on the part of unit and combined unit commanders for quality of accomplishment of training schedules, while they enable the fleet command authorities to respond swiftly to deficiencies and to take measures to correct negative phenomena.

In our opinion a substantial improvement in plan discipline is one of the principal ways of increasing the effectiveness of combat training. "The party has always viewed the plan as law," stressed CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the 26th CPSU Congress. "And not only because it is ratified by the Supreme Soviet. The plan is law because only observance of the plan ensures smooth operation of the nation's economy." All this also applies in full measure to the activities of military cadres. It is difficult to imagine the daily life and activities of military collectives without well-organized planning. Plans make it possible to coordinate the efforts of all control echelons and personnel and to direct them toward achieving excellent performance results in training.

Carrying out the demands of the party congress, the fleet military council, headquarters and political directorate, commanders, political agencies and party organizations devote considerable attention to further improving planning of combat and political training. Applying tougher demands on plan discipline and quality of plans proper, they seek to increase the effectiveness of military labor, improvement in the quality of training classes, drills and exercises, and efficient utilization of training time. It is essential to stress an important element here. If the concept of an exercise or plan of execution of a combat drill, for example, has been thoroughly thought through and if a complex tactical background and means of counteraction have been provided in full measure, possibilities and loopholes for unnecessary conventionalities are eliminated.

We recently assessed a commander's decision on organization and conduct of a mock engagement. The general concept was comprehensively substantiated. The objective of the "engagement" and the ways to achieve it, as well as the main and supporting actions were correctly specified. The commander calculated distances, angles of approach, sequence and signals, what weapons were to be used against the "aggressor," how and where to maneuver during deployment, attack, withdrawal, and what to do in case of an abrupt situation change and if it became necessary to revise a previously-made decision. During the exercise he did not hinder the initiative of subordinates and gave the commanding officers of his ships the opportunity to display tactical sharpness, decisiveness and daring. Suffice it to say that the mock combat situation itself demanded this of them -- it was dynamic, filled with elements of surprise and unexpected development of events. The opposing force by no means appeared to be a simpleton voluntarily presenting itself for attack. The commander's general plan called for the "aggressor" to act boldly and aggressively, resorting to military cunning, deceptive maneuvers, and employing electronic jamming. Thus the commander's plan was correct and well-considered.

Also very valuable was the fact that in conformity with the general plan of the exercise, the combined unit's political section, political workers and party organizations of the warships planned and carried out party-political work in a close link with the tasks being performed. They were able to ensure personal exemplariness on the part of Communists and Komsomol members, to incline the men toward conscientious labor, and to impart a high level of enthusiasm and businesslike efficiency to their competition for excellent accomplishment of tasks and performance standards. It is entirely logical that such a thoughtfully organized exercise produced considerable benefit to the officers and men of all ships.

Fleet command and political personnel do a great deal to teach officers to perform skillfully in the most complex tactical situation and to achieve victory over a powerful, technologically well-equipped adversary. Organization of commander training has been improved in the units and combined units. Primary emphasis is placed on specific officer training -- sea, air, and field proficiency. The principles of training forces to conduct combat actions in the most complex conditions began to be more aggressively implemented in many units. A system of combining of independent and group methods of study of tactical problems with officers was established, for example, on board most ships. Training of sub-unit commanders is precisely planned and is carried out strictly in conformity with a timetable which has been rigorously designated and specified by guideline documents. The method of assigning without warning the performance of a given exercise or drill is extremely beneficial to officers. This forces commanders to prepare thoroughly and comprehensively for a forthcoming mock battle and comprehensively to work on problems of tactical and special training and organization of ship, weapons and equipment damage control.

Ship commanders perform the main role in further improvement of tactical training. The majority are clearly aware of their responsibility for developing in subordinates skills of conducting naval warfare and work tirelessly on organization of training. Worthy of praise, for example, are the commanding officers of the ASW cruiser "Moskva," the guided missile cruiser "Admiral Golovko," and the large ASW ship "Skoryy," who continuously and in a practical manner monitor the independent study of their officers, personally conduct these tactical exercises and group drills, create during these activities a situation corresponding to modern combat, and prepare their subordinates for actions in complex conditions against a powerful, experienced adversary -- they teach them to fight a modern war.

In short, there are many positive elements in the practical work activities of commanders, staffs, political agencies, party and Komsomol organizations in the area of carrying out comprehensive training of command cadres. At the same time much remains to be done to achieve further improvement of commander training, utilization of reserve potential, and elimination of deficiencies.

The effectiveness of combat training depends in large measure on the degree of political maturity and conscientiousness of its organizers. The congress decisions enriched ideological and all party-political work in the fleet with new content. The quality of Marxist-Leninist training of officers and political training of personnel improved in the course of carrying out the guidelines of

this highest party forum and the tasks advanced by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, and propaganda and agitation are being conducted more aggressively and in a more practical manner. Primary party organizations have greatly stepped up their work, and are increasingly more decisively assuming the role of centers of daily ideological indoctrination activity. As a result there has been an increase in the sense of responsibility of leader personnel, all officer cadres, political agencies, party committees and party organizations for maintaining vigilance and combat readiness at a high level, strengthening of military discipline, improvement of methods of training and indoctrination of personnel, and quality of military labor. Measures conducted by Communists have begun to be more aggressively focused on achieving an excellent result from each day of combat training.

As an example we can cite the political section of the unit in which officer D. Borodavkin serves. He exerts effective influence on increasing the intensity and effectiveness of combat training. Quite correctly considering combat readiness to be the main area in their work, political section officers direct the efforts of the party organizations of headquarters, ships and subunits toward high-quality preparation for each time they put out to sea and effective work on each training task. The party-political work conducted by the political section and party organizations is aimed at creating a productive environment and moral climate in military collectives where everything -- study of the state of affairs within subunits, personal participation by political workers and party activists in various measures, instruction on the spot, and securement of exemplary performance by Communists in training -- is subordinated to improving the quality of the training and indoctrination process and the campaign against unnecessary relaxation of demands and situation simplification in organization of combat and political training. Individual talks with party members are actively utilized toward this end, as well as presentation of party member reports in party organizations and the political section, plus many other forms and methods of party-political work. As a result combat training tasks as a rule are performed in a complex tactical situation maximally approximating the conditions of actual combat.

Fleet political agencies are working persistently to ensure that the central point of political indoctrination work shifts directly onto the ships and into the subunits. Party organizations have amassed experience in conducting such work by combat training types and tasks and have begun receiving more concrete assistance from political section personnel and headquarters Communists in increasing militance and purposefulness in their activities. The causes of deficiencies in combat and political training were thoroughly analyzed and ways to correct them specified in almost all recent accountability reports and at elections of party agencies.

The complexity of the military-political situation in the areas in which our warships cruise is more fully taken into consideration in indoctrinational work. There has been an increase in the role of political agencies and party organizations in accomplishing the missions of extended cruises and flights, in synthesis and dissemination of experience in moral-political and psychological training of personnel. As a consequence, there has been an increase in the return generated by each mile covered.

At the same time the activities of certain commanders, political agencies and party organizations sometimes suffer from superficiality. Last year, for example, unnecessary situation simplifications and relaxation of demands occurred in organization of torpedo training in the unit in which officer V. Yevseyev serves, although they were saying a lot about achieving businesslike efficiency and purposefulness. We cannot say that the commanding officer and political section ignored these facts, but the deficiencies have not yet been fully corrected. And this is primarily because sometimes organizational and political work is set up without precise and full consideration of the concrete factors which affect the end results. Demands pertaining to organization of party-political work in a differentiated manner among types and tasks of combat training, especially tactical, weapon and special, on problems of mastering combat equipment and weapons, and improving the professional knowledge and methods skills of officers and other categories of command personnel are not yet being fully met in this unit.

Although such facts are isolated, they demand thorough analysis and prompt response in order to correct deficiencies. The complex and responsible tasks of the new training year oblige us to improve organizational and political work in all areas. High-quality accomplishment of training schedules and programs and further improvement of fleet combat readiness dictates the necessity of increasing the unified efforts of commanders, political agencies, staffs, party and Komsomol organizations in the campaign for high effectiveness of the training and indoctrination process; efficient utilization of each and every day and hour, and eradication of unnecessary relaxation of demands and situation simplifications in training. It is necessary to work more purposefully and persistently to ensure that each and every drill and exercise maximally approximates a real combat situation, with commanders learning to wage combat intelligently themselves and teaching the same ability to their subordinates.

Much remains for us to do in order to improve discipline of execution and responsibility of officers, firmly to establish in the work style of all commanders and political workers an objective and demanding approach to evaluation of results achieved by personnel. And there is only one path to follow here -- improve indoctrination work with personnel, increase demandingness, improve monitoring and verification of execution, and implement the guidelines of the 26th CPSU Congress and the November (1981) CPSU Central Committee Plenum on this score. We shall proceed correctly and advance more successfully if we constantly and continuously compare all our work, combat and political training, and military discipline with the demands of modern combat.

Fleet personnel are clearly aware of their duty and responsibility to the party and people and are filled with resolve to work even more persistently in the year of the 60th anniversary of establishment of the USSR, to work tirelessly to increase the combat readiness of warships, units and combined units, and reliably to guard the security and national interests of the homeland.

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NAVAL FORCES

POLITICAL TRAINING IN THE BLACK SEA FLEET

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 2, Jan 82 (signed to press 5 Jan 82). pp 15-21

[Article by Rear Adm S. Rybak, deputy chief of the Political Directorate of the Red Banner Black Sea Fleet: "Miles of Spiritual Maturing"]

[Text] The ships of the Black Sea Fleet perform responsible combat training tasks on long voyages. They often find themselves in the immediate vicinity of ships from countries belonging to aggressive imperialist blocs. The constant build-up of the might of the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean and the complex and interlacing political contradictions in the Mediterranean countries demand great vigilance from the Black Sea sailors.

In this article I would like to discuss the work of ships' primary party organizations in the light of the aforementioned specific factors conditioning personnel's life and activity on long voyages. First of all, I am going to dwell on the work of the party organization of the ASW cruiser Moskva on which I sailed.

The communists primarily paid attention to the main form of servicemen's ideological hardening--political studies. Practice shows that the limited nature of the information received during a voyage and of the literature available on board ship has a substantial effect on the work of some group leaders, especially young ones. They need to be constantly enriched with new knowledge and methodological skills. The political workers and the ship party committee took this into account. Instructional and methodological classes, seminars and theoretical conferences were held with group leaders. The regular discussions of propagandists' lectures were of considerable benefit to them. Group leaders were always able to work in the ship's library in a specially-equipped methodological corner.

On a voyage it is not easy to ensure that all sailors attend political classes. Some of them are on underway watches [khodovyye vakhty], others are performing urgent work that is sometimes not provided for by any plans. The cruiser's party committee enlisted students in the University of Marxism-Leninism and also the best trained officers studying in Marxist-Leninist training groups to monitor class attendance and to hold additional classes and collective and individual consultations with them [presumably: sailors--FBIS]. These communists helped the political worker and the party committee to analyze the quality of political classes in the groups and to generalize the methodological experience of the best propagandists.

In view of the situation in the region where we were sailing, extra classes were also held. Thus, when the activeness of NATO ships increased, political classes on the theme "U.S. and NATO Intrigues in the Mediterranean and the Near East. Personnel's Tasks to Increase Vigilance" were held in all groups.

The fact that the classes were closely linked with life and with the tasks being resolved on the voyage and were geared to the successful fulfillment of socialist pledges all ensured the great effectiveness of political studies.

The practice of holding integrated political days also certainly proved its worth during the voyage. These were a help in explaining profoundly and clearly to personnel the policy of the party and the government. The decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the military-political situation in the world and in the region where we were sailing, and in defining more precisely each person's place in fulfilling the tasks facing the ship. Usually, when there were speeches by officers S. Shaykin and V. Litvinenko and by 26th CPSU Congress delegate B. Yeryuskov, there would develop interested, confiding discussions in which leaders and subordinates exchanged information and debated unsolved problems and ways of eliminating shortcomings. No question perturbing the sailors would be left unanswered. For instance, one political day revealed shortcomings in the issue of the necessary supplies [imushchestvo] to servicemen.

The party committee heard a report from the ship's assistant commander for supplies, Capt 3d Rank N. Petrov, a CPSU member. The commander and the party organization displayed firmness and principledness in eliminating the shortcomings in the supply service. The sailors' demands were satisfied, which was naturally bound to affect their mood on the voyage.

Our constant problem--how to make mass agitation events more interesting, vivid, clear and persuasive--was acute under voyage conditions. The point is that without all that it is hard to make a profound impression on the minds of people whose every day involves great psychological stresses, difficult watches and frequent shipboard work. A party committee session specially discussed the question of how to make each political education event emotionally elevated and politically acute and how to ensure that it is closely linked with life and with the tasks being resolved. It was decided that before the preparation of any event the communists, who constitute the best propaganda forces, should meet briefly and formulate the requisite recommendations and should also take an active part in carrying out all that was planned. The thorough preparation of visual agitation material, vivid placards and thematic radio programs for lectures, soirees and discussions was the result of this detailed advice. Unsurprisingly, the events in question were interesting and very useful to students. Especially the soirees and matinees entitled "The Party is Our Helmsman" and "There is Always a Place for Exploits in Life," the Lenin readings entitled "The Tasks of Youth Leagues" and the "Letter to American Workers."

The party committee displayed similar concern for high ideological standards in events that instilled in servicemen political vigilance and a burning class hatred of imperialism.

I will describe how the thematic soiree "There You Have It. The Bestial Face of Imperialism" was held. Preparing for the soiree, the communists mounted a book

exhibition entitled "Why I Hate Imperialism," a photo feature entitled "The U.S. 6th Fleet is a Fleet of Aggression and Brigandage," and a photomontage called "International Imperialism's Web of Bases Around the USSR." The soiree was addressed by the formation chief of staff and the cruiser's deputy commander for political affairs. They explained to the sailors the theses of the 26th CPSU Congress regarding the intensification of aggressive preparations by American imperialism and the NATO countries and described the U.S. 6th Fleet's piratical mission in the Mediterranean. WOs N. Nosov and N. Dunko read out well-known literary confessions by former Pentagon soldiers of American military atrocities in Vietnam. In plain view of all the meeting participants was a stand showing the aircraft carrier Independence, which was then in the immediate vicinity of the cruiser. The following words were highlighted on the stand: "Serviceman of the Black Sea Fleet: mark well: aircraft from this carrier bombed Vietnam and shot peaceful civilians. Wherever the raiders of the 6th Fleet appear, military crises, provocations and reactionary plots arise. These ships are maintaining a police vigil many thousands of miles from their home shores; be vigilant!"

The address at the soiree by PO 2d Class A. Pobochiy, son of a great patriotic war veteran, was moving. He spoke of his father's reminiscences about the troubles which international imperialism, in the shape of German Fascism brought to the peoples of Europe. The soiree ended with the literary and musical composition "This Must Never Be Repeated," incorporating fragments of the movies "Great Patriotic War" [velikaya otechestvennaya] and "The Web" [pautina]. The antisubmarine seamen greeted with a profound sense of responsibility the words of the ship's commander to the effect that as soon as the smoke from the imperialists' latest adventure is smelt in the Near East, the Pentagon makes it clear that the covers can be removed from the guns and the admirals can be stripped of their responsibility for risky statements and actions. The commander recalled the need for high vigilance, constant combat readiness and the excellent fulfillment of training tasks.

As you can see, the force of militant, aggressive propaganda at sea lies above all in its party-mindedness and high communist ideology. It must explain all events in domestic and international life from class standpoints and on the basis of the world outlook, policy and decisions of the communist party, rebuff bourgeois ideology and morals and strengthen the seamen's loyalty to their military duty and hatred for imperialism.

The success of ideological work at sea is also largely determined by the organization of the briefing of personnel on events in our country. In their own fleet and abroad, wherever Soviet ships' voyages may take them, the feelings and thoughts of naval seamen are inextricably linked with the motherland and how it is living today. The reports they hear on the radio and the conversations of communists enrich the seamen's spiritual world and have a beneficial effect on their mood and actions of the voyage. Thus, on the ship, we are discussing. The political briefing of personnel was efficiently organized on the voyage. Every day, at a time specially set aside for this, the ship radio relayed recordings of the latest news and reviews of the central newspapers. Also every day, political workers studied information coming in over the radio and the phototelegraph link. This information, summarized over a 24-hour period, was duplicated on typewriters and placed in special "today's news" files to be found in the officers' and warrant officers' wardrooms, staff messrooms and crew's quarters. In the most prominent place on the ship, there was a

stand on which the latest issues of newspapers received over the phototelegraph and the press bulletin "Okeanskim Kursom" were displayed regularly. This whole range of information substantially enriched the content of the ideological work carried out on the voyage.

However, individual shortcomings are still permitted to occur in the organization of political information work on long voyages on this ship and on certain others. What form do these shortcomings take? The information is at times of a purely instructional nature, has little contact with the seamen's life and tasks and is not infrequently organized by political information workers alone. Yet life demands insistently that in every ship subunit the ship's commander, his political deputy and the secretary of the party organization should also take part more frequently in political information work. This will ensure that the information is more topical, is linked with the tasks being fulfilled by the ship and is more relevant, after all, the communists we are talking about can inform people knowledgeably about the state of combat and political training and military discipline on the ship and the results of socialist competition. Party committees and bureaus are called upon to play an organizing role here. It is their duty not only to involve competent people in information work with the crew, but also to be more exacting toward them.

In ideological work the significance of agitation and propaganda groups set up under party committees and bureaus can hardly be exaggerated. As is known, these groups include the communists who have the most thorough theoretical training, enjoy prestige and know the value of impassioned party words. It is only a matter of briefing them constantly on events in the country's domestic and international life and the affairs of their own crew and of being very exacting toward them. That is how the party organization of one patrol vessel operates. Officers A. Ilin, S. Yevlanchik, I. Kulikov and other members of the agitation and propaganda group, on voyages, regularly address personnel with talks and reports on political topics and on questions of the country's domestic and international life and play an active part in holding soirees and morning sessions.

Thus, on one voyage, with the help of nonstaff propagandists, a map was drawn of the military-political situation in the region of the ship's voyage and the information bulletin "Treble Vigilance!" [bditelnost utroy] was regularly displayed in the canteen and in the crew's quarters. Agitators' study corners operated. Great interest was aroused among all the seamen by talks by members of the agitation and propaganda group on the topic: "The 26th CPSU Congress on the Tasks of Further Strengthening the Country's Defense Capability and the Combat Readiness and Combat Capability of the Soviet Armed Forces," "The Long Voyage--A School of Military Skill" and "High Discipline--A Reliable Guarantee of the Successful Fulfillment of Combat Training Tasks." There was a special discussion at a party bureau session of the agitation and propaganda groups' work on the voyage. After this the propagandists stepped up their activity even more and brought it closer to meeting the requirements of daily life at sea.

As is indicated by the work experience of many party organizations, success in fulfilling tasks on a long voyage is ensured back at base, on the eve of putting out to sea. It is well known that a person finishes a task in the same mood in which he sets about it. In the natural bustle of things to be done in the preparation period, it is important not to forget the main thing--to prepare every person for the

fulfillment of a responsible task and to create a mood among the crew which promotes bold, enterprising actions.

In the fleet it has become the rule, before putting out to sea, to visit museums and rooms of combat glory and hold rallies at monuments and communal graves. As in the war years, at these rallies the Black Sea naval seamen vow to carry the Soviet navy flag across the seas and oceans with honor, to fulfill the motherland's missions in an exemplary way and to add to its naval glory. I will cite an example.

On the eve of departure on a long voyage by the patrol ship Deyatelnyy, on the initiative of the party organization a meeting was held between the seamen and Capt (Ret) M. Lyubovich, who was deputy commander for political affairs of the subdivision to which the destroyer Deyatelnyy, which fearlessly routed the enemy, belonged. The servicemen listened with unflagging interest to this participant in battles against the fascists.

On a particular December day in 1944, the destroyers Deyatelnyy and Zhivuchiy were seeking an enemy submarine. The Deyatelnyy's sonar operators the first to "hear" the submarine. The fascists were trying to evade pursuit by constantly varying their depth and speed. But the sonar operators locked onto the submarine firmly. The ship's minelayers also worked skillfully. After the first series of depth charges were dropped, there was a violent explosion which threw up to the surface a column of fire and smoke and fragments of the enemy submarine.

Weapons and hardware have now become more complex. Servicemen must master the solid practical skills of using them. But Soviet sailors' tradition--that of returning from sea with nothing less than victory--remains unchanged. Capt (Ret) 1st Class M. Lyubovich appealed to the ship's crew to fulfill all the tasks of a protracted voyage with nothing but excellent-rated assessments and to show by practical deeds that the present generation of naval seamen can work as skillfully and resolutely on a voyage as their fathers and grandfathers did when fighting the enemy. On the crew's behalf, the veteran was assured by WO V. Kuzmin, a master specialist and son of a participant in the fighting for Novorossiysk; communist and Sn 1st Class A. Kovalenko; and PO 1st Class G. Ovchar, commander of an excellent-rated helmsman's section, that on the long voyage they would augment the war heroes' renown and fulfill the motherland's assignment with honor.

This meeting helped to put the sailors in the proper frame of mind for success and sharpened their sense of high responsibility for the work entrusted to them. During the voyage, communists reminded all the sailors of the veterans' instructions and of their military duty via the shipboard address system, at political study sessions and in the wall newspaper. On the initiative of a young communist, PO 1st Class V. Anokhin, socialist competition was also launched among the sonar operators for the right to the honored title of "best sonar operator--successor to the sonar operators of the destroyer Deyatelnyy" conferred on the basis of the results of the voyage. Anokhin himself won this competition. During the voyage, the patrol vessel's sonar operators performed excellent-rated work. They also showed good preparation during the checking out at the base.

The experience of a number of primary party organizations indicates that during a lengthy voyage, onboard socialist competition for best underway watch, combat shift and best indicators for tactical, antisubmarine and weapon training and for foremost

subunit is assuming special scope. As an expression of the men's high awareness, it also acts as an effective means of bringing about the spiritual maturation of sailors. When organizing competition, commanders, political workers and party and Kom-somol organizations are concerned not just about numerical indicators but also that high moral and combat qualities should be molded in the men and that their political and cultural horizons should be broadened. Communists make use of moral incentives--showing off those who have distinguished themselves, giving them publicity and propagandizing competition winners' experience--they inculcate in all sailors a sense of responsibility for the honor of their subunit and vessel and an implacability toward the least shortcomings, prompt those competing to help each other out and teach them to be exacting toward each other.

While noting the increasing effectiveness of onboard competition during a long voyage, it should also be pointed out that in some instances toward the voyage's end it seems to lose impetus, on occasions acquires a purely formal character and is reduced to the collecting of various result data. In such instances, one completely loses sight of competition's moral and ethical aspects and of questions of further strengthening discipline and consolidating military collectives. Men are not being steered toward keeping up the ship's honor back at the base, too, or in showing diligence in military work.

Ideological work both before and during a voyage is multifaceted and diverse. The 26th CPSU Congress requirement that its topicality and concreteness be increased prompts us to tirelessly seek more and more new ways of intensifying the efficiency of the men's education during the voyage and the effectiveness of the impact of party-political work on the quality and results of the implementation of the tasks facing crews. The formation of surface vessels is carrying out this quest with initiative and creativity. During a voyage, the political organ spends a certain time studying a specific problem of political-educational work. For example, the quality of political briefings, ensuring an accident-free voyage and a vigilant performance of the underway watches or the party organization's influence on sailors' moral and psychological state under voyage conditions. This kind of in-depth, and more detailed and comprehensive probing of the problem as though from within illuminates little-studied or hitherto entirely unknown aspects of it and suggests ways of solving tasks that arise.

Communists K. Burkovskiy, P. Korobkin, I. Anisimov and others have done much study of the work farried out by ships' party organizations with those sailors who have embarked on their first long voyage. Life shows that this is one of most important areas of our work. For an intensive process of character-formation of fostering strength of will, courage and endurance and of developing an unshakable loyalty to military duty occurs among young people on a voyage. This period, which can determine in a young man the central core of his ideological and moral tempering, must not be overlooked by the party organization. And, on the other hand, the fate of the fulfillment of a particular task at sea may be determined by the actions of even a single young sailor. So, in all instances, this constitutes a very important problem.

The approach to this problem on one particular ship is of undoubted interest. CPSU member M. Litvinov, commander of combat unit of electricians on this ship, carefully and thoughtfully studies each new arrival in the combat unit. During the voyage, he

compiles, as a rule, a complete psychological and educational assessment of each young sailor. The officer extracts important information about the men from the letters the sailors' parents send to him at his request. By attentive observation of his subordinates, in a given situation and often by creating these situations himself, this communist strives to bring more fully to light not only the young sailor's positive qualities but also his negative qualities, such as, for example, weak will, heightened emotional susceptibility, egoism, stubbornness and so forth. Qualities which in the complex situation of a long voyage may have a decisive effect on the sailor's conduct and activity.

Life itself convinces us that the moral and psychological training of sailors on long voyages demands unremitting attention. But how do matters actually stand? In certain party organizations there is an opinion current that if a crew fulfills tasks successfully under the difficult conditions of a stormy voyage, it means that ideological and education work with all personnel categories is on target, too, but then a practice firing task on some ship is accomplished poorly simply because one of the young officers of an antiaircraft battery has not psychologically prepared for it. Does this not indicate once again that nowadays, given the modern standard of hardware with which ships are equipped, we cannot be contented with general measures for the moral and psychological training of people carrying our crucial duties on their first long voyage when complex tasks are being tackled. They must be prepared psychologically to solve each specific task. I emphasize the word "specific." Then we shall be able to foresee the main difficulties and surprises that may arise here and do everything to avoid the young specialist's becoming confused and to avoid his shirking his duty at a critical moment. Such work must not be of an intermittent character, its success is determined by a systematic approach to it, by a persistent and thoughtful probing of young sailors' moral and psychological condition and by the ability to take it into account in the ideological, political and educational work carried out by communists.

And for this, ships' command and party organizations are called upon to constantly teach officers and warrant officers the practice of educating their subordinates during a long voyage and are also required to motivate them to such activity throughout the voyage. It is important that ideological and educational work in ship subunits should invariably be at the focus of attention for senior commanders and political workers and party and Komsomol aktiv of subunits on questions of improving ideological and educational work on long voyages in the light of the demands of the 26th Party Congress, of the November (1981) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and of the Central Committee Resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political-Educational Work."

Ships nowadays sail far away on the seas and for long periods. The conditions under which voyages take place are usually difficult. This means that party-political work on long voyages must be conducted with greater vigor and that guidance of this work by political organs must be uninterrupted, flexible and relevant to concrete circumstances. The fleet's political directorate is fully aware of this. Many of our comrades constantly study the experience accumulated on excellent-rated ships of organizing party-political work on long voyages and, on this basis, they formulate recommendations for political workers and party and Komsomol activists. The political directorate publishes special study aids which generalize advanced experience and answer many questions of the practical organization of party-political work,

propaganda and agitation at sea. We also take into consideration the fact that during voyages methods for ensuring the efficient leadership of party organizations are tested and we amend them promptly, taking account of the requirements of the tasks being tackled.

By improving ideological work on long voyages, commanders, political workers and party organizations develop among the entire personnel a high sense of responsibility for the work entrusted to them, see to it that they have a profound understanding of Soviet sailors' internationalist mission and foster a pride in serving on ships of the [Soviet] navy, steadfastness in overcoming the difficulties and deprivations of life on sea voyage and a readiness to fulfill honorably the tasks of the party and government.

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CSO: 1801/197-F

NAVAL FORCES

BALTIC FLEET COMMANDER NOTES SHORTCOMINGS OF NAVAL RECRUITS

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 Apr 82 p 1

[Article by I. Kapitanets, admiral, commander of the Twice Red-Banner Baltic Fleet: "Education in Glory"]

[Text] From the beginning there were two episodes which have now been inscribed forever in the heroic history of the Twice Red-Banner Baltic Fleet.

...Water had come into the bilge and created a situation in which a boiler could explode. In order to prevent an explosion, it was necessary to start the ejector of the bilge pump quickly, but it was under water. Was there enough time to get to it? Or wasn't there enough time and a real catastrophe lay ahead? Bilge seamen S. A. Borzin and V. V. Kiryushkin could not think about that. I will grant that fear did appear in their hearts. That did not prevent them from acting like fightingmen are supposed to act: time after time they dove through the layer of mazut into the icy water until the danger had been eliminated.

...When Petty Officer 1st Class Ivan Tambasov, knocked from his feet by an air wave, regained consciousness, a flame was stealing towards the ammunition: from moment to moment an explosion would break out, there was no time even to call someone for help. During these moments only he, Tambasov, could rid the ship of its terrible cargo. His uniform was on fire, and the scorched sleeves burned his arms, but he threw one hot shell after another overboard. The last of them exploded in the sailor's hands. Tambasov died but the ship was saved.

I intentionally omitted details that would help to determine the time the feats occurred, in order to emphasize: the years pass, decades go by, but the glorious traditions of the Baltic Fleeters remain inviolable. If circumstances require self-sacrifice and maximum risk, there are always sailors who are ready to wage the struggle to the end. Once more we were convinced of this during the recent Zapad-81 exercises. On board a ship whose crew included a Borzin, a Kiryushkin and a Tambasov, the name is one and the same, but these are different ships. Ivan Tambasov died 16 April 1943, when the battleship "Oktyabr'skaya revolyutsiya" fought an artillery duel with the Hitlerites. Borzin and Kiryushkin served on the cruiser "Oktyabr'skaya revolyutsiya," which had taken the baton from the like-named battleship. The name Tambasov has been inscribed forever on the crew roster of this cruiser.

We are proud that we have the right to call ourselves Balts. But to be a Balt today, to preserve and multiply the glorious Baltic traditions is not easy.

One must be able to do much and to know much. But it is not a matter of these things alone. In one of his speeches, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev emphasized: "In carrying out the universal military responsibility, almost all the country's male population serves a term of service in the armed forces. And this occurs in the youthful years, when the character is being molded, and the world-view and a conscious attitude toward life are being shaped. The army thereby becomes also a great school of life for our youth, a component part of the whole system of Soviet education."

It follows directly from this that the continuity of army and navy traditions is at the same time also a continuity of the traditions of the Soviets. It is being supported, of course, not only by dogged, persistent military studies. The level of the fightingman's conscientiousness and the degree of possession of military craftsmanship are determined by the measure of his communist convictions and his patriotism. This, it goes without saying, does not exclude love of his Baltic Fleet and a proud sense of belonging to it.

We apply no little effort to cultivating these feelings in the young serviceman. It is natural that aboard ship and in units this is not restricted to political studies, talks, lectures and practical-science conferences. Paramount importance is attributed to direct contacts of the young sailors with veterans of the fleet. The fleet operates museums and rooms of military glory.

We see one of our most important tasks to be that of seeing to it that respect for the fleet's traditions and its heroic past permeates the naval experience and supports the whole course of military service. Military rituals are of no little help here. I myself invariably wait with trembling heart for the moment when the ship passes a place where honors are rendered to a military feat, as is done, for example, at the meridian beacon of Tolbukhin, in memory of the Ice Cruise of the revolutionary sailors in 1918 and the heroic defenders of Leningrad in 1941-1944. When rendering honors, all hands form at the call, "Major Assembly," and are told briefly about the feat over the intercom, the flag is saluted, and, on state holidays, wreaths are placed on the water. A maximum of emotional sentiment is also brought out in such rituals as the raising of the naval flag aboard ships, the awarding of the "Guards" emblem, and the transfer of a combat post to newly arrived young servicemen. Going to sea for the first time, the first dive, and other important events of military life are organized ceremonially.

The 16th of October of this year will mark the 60th anniversary of the day that the 5th All-Union Congress of the Komsomol adopted the decision of sponsorship for the navy. Since then each new generation of sailors has been writing ever newer pages in the golden book of sponsorship.

Right now, for example, ships and units of the Baltic Fleet are maintaining close sponsorship ties with the Komsomol organizations of 5 republics and 18 oblasts. An entire squadron could be formed from the ships that are carrying the names of our Komsomol sponsors from Ul'yanovsk, Altay, Kaliningrad, Kirov, Michurinsk, Pskov, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Belorussia. The crews of these ships come, as a rule, from those oblasts and krais for which the ships were named.

The tradition of sponsorship lives on and is enriched, but nevertheless I cannot pass over in silence the fact that we are seeking still more from the Komsomol today. Not from the point of view of some sort of quantitative indicators, but on a

different level--the quality of what is being done should be raised. It is most worrisome of all when at times we encounter formalism, which apparently is not at all characteristic of youth. Last year, for example, Komsomolers from Krasnodarskiy Kray and Gor'kovskaya Oblast often were sent to the sponsored ships or units [chasti] without having been issued Komsomol passes. Very often, when passes were issued, this was done without ceremony. The Komsomol organization leaders of the Kirovskiy Zavod Association of Leningrad, which sponsors the cruiser, "Oktyabr'skaya revolyutsiya," acted even more simply: they sent 16 blank forms to the rayon military committee without having even gone to the trouble of filling them out; and those called up numbered only 11. Fairly often they did the same at Altay. And something else has also happened: non-Komsomol members arrived from Kaluga, Gor'kiy and Moscow's Baumanskiy Rayon with Komsomol passes. The cases were isolated, of course, but one cannot be reconciled with them.

DOSAAF also leaves something to be desired on our part. The period of service of the fleet has been reduced, and the equipment has become increasingly complicated. But not all the conscripts sent to the fleet have obtained special training on the fleet's equipment.

Neither does the physical training of some conscripts satisfy us. Strapping lads come to us and some among them happen to be excellent athletes, but there are still those who, with a superior exterior potential, do not withstand any serious burden. They cannot, for example, pull themselves up on the horizontal bar once.

We are credited with great literature and great art today. There's hardly anything substantial that has been created in recent years by literary and art workers about the navy. You involuntarily recall the time when Vsevolod Vishnevskiy, Leonid Sobolev and Aleksandr Kron were the singers of the fleet.... True, much documentary literature and reminiscences of the Great Patriotic War are being printed, but no attempt has been made to communicate artistically the achievement of the Baltic Fleet in the defense of Leningrad. To tell about the defense of Liyepaya and Khan-ko and to recreate the epics of the Oranienbaum beachhead, the Ladoga water routes and the underwater raids on the Hitlerites' rear communications....

There is too little that can be found in the literature, even in documentary literature, about the modern fleet, although there is heroism and psychological conflicts in its workdays. In our days, sailors often operate under conditions that approach combat to the maximum, and they even risk their lives. Here is just one example. In the last 4 years the fleet's sappers have disarmed more than 120,000 explosive objects. We are not at a loss for bright, original characters and dramatic situations for stories, plays and a great novel. The sailors themselves, incidentally, dream most of all about a song which not only they but everyone would sing. As they sing about "Varyag" or "Vecher na reyde" by Vasiliy Solov'yev-Sedoy, the song about a weary submarine by Aleksandra Pakhmutova, or the song "Skalistyye gori" by Yevteniy Zharkovskiy. We have too few, entirely too few universally recognized songs about the navy.

The Baltic Fleet sailors have their own Dramatic Theater imeni Vsevolod Vishnevskiy, their own collection of songs and dances, and tens of singular amateur collectives and individual performers who enjoy popularity. They can do many things, but here, even with their own naval repertoire, they are having difficulty: when they begin to search for something to put on, something to act out or to dance, the choice, as a rule, is not great, for there is nothing especially to choose from.

We are not alone in the Baltic today: the fraternal fleets of the Polish People's Republic and the German Democratic Republic stand watch side by side with us. In recent years the fleet's ships have also gone to ports in Denmark, France, Finland, Sweden and many other countries on friendly or business visits. Wherever we have gone our sailors invariably are singled out for their culture and sailorly training, their state of organization and discipline, and, what is especially dear, the strong feeling of proletarian internationalism that has been inculcated in them.

Education in glory. It is an integral part of the communist education of the Soviet people. Begun in school as military and patriotic education, it acquires new facets with service in the army and navy, and it becomes that force that will help the young man to become a convinced Soviet internationalist patriot, a true builder of communism.

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CSO: 1801/201

DOSAAF AND MILITARY COMMISSARIATS

DOSAAF LEADER STRESSES NEED FOR FLIGHT TRAINING, AIR SPORTS

Moscow KRYL'YA RODINY in Russian No 4, Apr 82 (signed to press 15 Mar 82) pp 4-6

[Article by Col Gen Avn S. Kharlamov, Hero of the Soviet Union, Honored Military Pilot of the USSR and deputy chairman of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee: "Clear Skies for Aviation Sports"]

[Text] The second year of the 11th Five-Year Plan is underway. Along with all the Soviet people, the DOSAAF members are successfully carrying out the socialist obligations assumed for 1982. The Decree of the CPSU Central Committee "On the 60th Anniversary of the Formation of the USSR" has caused a new upsurge of creative activity in the committees, training and primary organizations. The socialist competition to properly celebrate this remarkable date is growing wider.

The Bureau of the Presidium of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee has adopted a decree on conducting an all-Union competition for the best organization of military patriotic, mass defense, training and sports work in the primary organizations. One of the requirements of the contest is to involve the DOSAAF members in the technical and paramilitary types of sports.

To achieve truly mass development of the technical and paramilitary types of sports is one of the main demands of the Seventh Plenum of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee. As is known, the plenum reviewed the tasks of the DOSAAF organizations stemming from the Decree of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers "On Further Increasing the Mass Nature of Physical Culture and Sports." Some 6 months have passed since the plenum and at present we are able to analyze the course of carrying out the adopted decisions and to draw the first conclusions.

The large aktiv of DOSAAF has adopted the party and government decree as the fighting program of their work for the sake of strengthening the economic and defense might of the socialist fatherland. In previous months, a good deal has already been done to carry out the tasks stemming from this important party document. The committees have carried out definite organizational work to develop the technical and paramilitary types of sports, to increase the ranks of athletes and to raise the level of their skills. Everywhere there have been plenums of the DOSAAF committees, meetings of the aktivs, conferences and seminars. Sound work plans for the committees, clubs and training organizations have been drawn up. Here our major task is being carried out evermore directly, that is, to aid in every possible way in indoctrinating loyal sons and daughters of the Soviet fatherland and true patriots of the motherland and

to form in them high moral-political, moral and volitional qualities, optimism, strength and endurance and readiness to defend the victories of socialism. The broadening of defense sports work is viewed as one of the ways for carrying out this task. In fulfilling the requirements of the party and government, the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee has adopted a number of specific measures for the greatest possible development of sports aviation. First of all I would like to bring up the problem of training the personnel of instructor pilots. They, I would say, are the crucial figure in sports aviation. For any future sportsmen, the path to the skies starts with the instructor. The success in the training and development of the students depend upon how politically and procedurally skilled he is as well as how able and sensitive an indoctrinator and mentor he is. The recently organized central DOSAAF aviation courses are doing good service in improving our flight instructor personnel as well as pilot and parachutist trainers.

The Central Parachute Air Club has begun operating and this must become a center for training and procedural work, it must develop skilled instructors and trainers, select the most able sports parachutists for combined teams as well as conduct searches and research in the area of modern parachuting.

How is the situation in the area of the preparation and training of sports personnel in the republics, krays, oblasts and cities? Recently, there has been much that is positive in the recruitment, training and indoctrination of the instructors. The leadership of many committees and clubs has begun paying more attention to this category of our aktiv. As an example I would mention the experience of the Ukrainian DOSAAF Central Committee. Here they have been able to coordinate and closely link the activities of the DOSAAF organizations and committees with the trade union and public education bodies, with the Komsomol, the military units and the volunteer sports societies. The republic regularly conducts seminars and courses for the exchange of experience as well as instruction sessions and popularizes the best examples of the diverse activities of the leadership and particularly the instructor personnel. Proper concern and exactingness have been shown so that sports aviation can be propagandized as widely as possible and that an ever-larger number of workers and student youth become involved in it.

There are many examples of the able solving of these problems in many DOSAAF organizations of the RSFSR, Belorussia, Lithuania and the other republics. It is worthy of note that the problems of increasing the mass involvement in sports have become one of the main tasks for many of the DOSAAF committees and organizations. This is most successfully carried out where they skillfully utilize the general patriotic upsurge caused by the widely developing competition to properly celebrate the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. The holding of the Eighth Summer All-Union Spartakiad of the Soviet Peoples has actively helped to involve the youth in sports.

The Rostov Air Club has been one of the initiators of the socialist competition. Here high obligations have been set and, judging from the preliminary data, they are successfully being carried out. For this the collective has a good start from last year, when they had to carry out the difficult task of mastering the MI-2 helicopter. The first to fly were the club's chief, A. Rassukovskiy, the senior navigator, N. Belyayev and the flyers G. Timchenko, B. Novikov and V. Yeliseyenko. They skillfully passed on their knowledge and experience to the instructors and now the students are breaking in on this aircraft.

The air club is successfully carrying out an extensive plan of political indoctrination measures and safety in flying and parachute jumps is guaranteed. There has been a constant struggle amongst the crews and teams for the right to wear the title "outstanding crew" and "outstanding team."

The set plans are successfully being carried out in the Volgograd, Leningrad, Sverdlovsk, Zaporozh'ye, Kinel'-Cherkasskiy and other clubs. Here sports aviation is actively propagandized and on the basis of mass involvement in it steady work has been commenced to carry out the planned and to achieve new heights. The opening of new DOSAAF sports aviation organizations in Novosibirsk, Ishim and Ulan-Ude should aid in further developing mass participation in sports and in increasing sports skills.

I would like to say a good word about the valuable initiative of the Lithuanian DOSAAF committees. Here a policy has been set of creating technical air sports clubs on volunteer bases with close contact between the committees and enterprises. A number of air sports organizations is operating successfully on this basis in the republic. Many of them have achieved good indicators, they have won popularity and in fact have become propagandists of aviation knowledge and aviation sports. The Panevezhis ATSK [Air Technical Sports Club] has won the rotating Red Banner of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee and the Central Committee of the Aviation Workers Trade Union.

Unfortunately, this is far from the case everywhere. As yet many leaders of our committees and clubs lack professionalism and aptitude in their work and do not follow the sacred admonishment: "Having accepted an obligation, carry it out!" There are still many elements of formalism in work and unproductive busyness on the part of the leadership. Serious shortcomings in the development of the aviation types of sports have occurred in many DOSAAF committees and clubs in Kirghiz and Turkmen and in a number of oblasts of the RSFSR. Mass sports work has been organized extremely poorly in the Ivanovo and Irkutsk air sports clubs. Here in essence they have not moved from the outlined plans to their implementation and sports aviation has still not become a mass phenomenon although there are the conditions and reserves for this.

Not all our committees skillfully use local opportunities for improving the physical plant of sports work. Many training areas, sports fields, laboratories and shops are not used on days off and their load factor is still insufficient and extremely low. Unfortunately, these questions are rarely studied by the DOSAAF committees and clubs.

I would like to take up the individual types of sports. In airplane, helicopter and gliding sports, as a whole, there has been a tendency for their further development and the achieving of a qualitatively new level and mass participation. A number of the undertaken measures have already produced their first positive results. In particular, there has been an increase in the plans for the air sports clubs to train sports pilots and parachutists. Measures have been adopted to strengthen the sports personnel, to improve their recruitment and placement, to increase the level and quality of their training and retraining as well as to improve the procedural work with the aktiv. The physical plant of the training and sports organizations has been strengthened. At the same time the training of high-class teams, particularly

in helicopter sports, requires a major improvement. It is essential to raise the quality of the training and drill courses and their procedural level and to increase the responsibility of the sportsmen for their training. Undoubtedly, every trip by our sports delegation to international meets should be prepared for on a level of today's needs.

Our clubs have recently introduced a new type of sports parachuting, group acrobatics. Specific measures have been adopted to systematize the holding of parachuting contests and improve their organizational level, particularly for group acrobatics and all-round combination tournaments as well as the training and drill courses.

On a winter day at the Yegor'yevsk DOSAAF Air Club, jumps were held from an altitude of 2,000 m with a 30-second delay in parachute opening and group jumps for landing accuracy. On the ground instructors watched every movement of their students in the air using modern optical devices and a video tape recorder was employed. In the air the trainees showed good skills. Among the parachutists, were engineers, workers and students. Basically they were young persons with the youngest being 16 and the oldest 27. The jumps were performed excellently by the lathe operator M. Kubyskin, the student A. Khrulev, the dress shop worker N. Bubnova and others. Having learned the joy of conquering the skies they have become propagandists and agitators for sports parachuting in their collectives and are leading new youth groups. For this reason in this air club neither its chief Yu. Shatskiy or the instructors Yu. Mishakov, A. Leonenkov and V. Potapov can complain of a lack of persons wanting to learn parachuting. They are doing everything to familiarize the youth with the skies and many graduates of the club are serving in the airborne troops or work in civil aviation, recalling with gratitude the home air club which launched them into the skies.

However, parachuting and its mass participation have still not been fully developed. We have every opportunity for more widely involving the youth in this type of sports. In a number of clubs the parachute sections are small, they do not have extensive contacts with the youth and little work is done with the instructor and trainer personnel. The drills and ground training at times are carried out irregularly. Everything must be done so that this type of sports becomes one of the most mass activities.

Aviation model-making also has enormous prospects for mass development. Unfortunately, in recent years there has been a decline in the model-making sections and circles, particularly at the general education schools and PTU [vocational-technical school]. There are several reasons for this. It has become more difficult for the sections and circles to acquire supplies for building the models and to purchase small engines and radioelectronic equipment. A model-making circle needs a room, metal-cutting machines and other equipment. Of course, there must also be skilled personnel who know the laws of aerodynamics and are able to build the models, operate a lathe and control difficult radio equipment.

How can these problems be solved? Many DOSAAF committees and air sports clubs, under the leadership of the local party bodies and the trade union and Komsomol organizations, are successfully participating in the development of model airplane making. For example, in Penza, the Central Model Airplane Makers Station has been organized. The technical facilities have been concentrated here. Here also they

have organized the training of volunteer instructors and, most importantly, the station has established close ties with the schools and PTU. At present, in a number of Penza secondary schools model-making sections are operating as affiliates of the Central Station. They obtain procedural and material support from it.

Measures are being taken actively to eliminate reasons for the decline in interest in model airplane making and for improving the supplies for the participants. A plant is being reconstructed in Gomel' and this will produce products for the model makers. Its capacity will be significantly increased. Measures are being taken to improve the quality and quantity of the produced sets and engines for the model makers at the DOSAAF enterprises of Moscow and other oblasts. It is essential that the DOSAAF committees show more attention to developing mass involvement in model aircraft making and improve the leadership of this type of sport. It is more and more difficult for the model makers to find an area for flying their models and particularly to set up a flying field. But these questions can be solved relying on the help of the soviet bodies, the trade unions and Komsomol. There must be more will power, initiative and tenacity.

The youngest type of air sports, delta hang-gliding, is gaining strength and mass participation. Its organizational formation in clubs is being completed. A delta glider has been adopted for series production. The first all-Union competitions of hang-gliders have been held. The interest in this type of aviation sport is significant. However, here there cannot be a lack of control. As yet many beginning sportsmen have little knowledge of the questions of aerodynamics and meteorology, they produce the gliders by hand and try to fly them. This at times has led to severe injuries. It must not be forgotten that the skies do not forgive mistakes even a meter off the ground.

We live and work not only in the present but also for the sake of the future, and we are far from indifferent to what the school children and students in the PTU will become. The Decree of the Seventh Plenum of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee requires "an improvement in defense sports work by the primary DOSAAF organizations, the general education schools, the PTU and the specialized secondary schools.... The necessary measures must be taken out to develop a system of support points for exercises in the technical and paramilitary types of sports where the population lives, particularly in rural localities." Much is being done in this regard. Work is being successfully carried out with the school children in the youth military patriotic associations such as the clubs and schools for young pilots and young cosmonauts. The activities of the Kuybyshev Youth Aerospace Complex imeni Twice-Hero of the Soviet Union V. A. Shatalov could serve as an example here. The complex recruits students from the seventh, eighth and ninth grades of the city. Almost 2,000 children are studying here. The figure is very impressive. The candidates are selected by the representatives of the Bureau of the Komsomol Gorkom, the Volga Civil Aviation Administration, the political section of the district air force, the DOSAAF obkom and the public education section. These organizations ensure that all the political indoctrination and special training of the students are carried out on a high level. What training organizations does the complex include: there are several of them but the main ones are: aerospace and training-production complexes, schools and clubs for young pilots and cosmonauts, small air academies, schools and clubs for young aviators of the Air Force, ministry of civil aviation, DOSAAF, ministry of aviation industry, ministry of education and the AUCCTU. Kuybyshev has

gained valuable experience in working with the school children. It serves as a good incentive for new accomplishments and for conquering new heights.

Similar youth military-patriotic associations are operating successfully in Izhevsk, Voronezh, Saransk, Buzuluk, Chimkent, Donetsk and in other cities. But there still are few of them. The leaders of certain DOSAAF committees clearly underestimate the state importance of the task, that is, improving military-patriotic work with the school children, propagandizing aviation knowledge and acquainting the youth with aviation. The Seventh Plenum of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee demanded a greater role in this area for the DOSAAF training organizations, including our air clubs. The aviation sports clubs should more actively help the primary DOSAAF organizations, the young technician stations, the Pioneer palaces and clubs in developing the aviation types of sports.

The development of mass participation will make it possible to also successfully solve the problem of improving the skill of the sportsmen and disclosing the most talented youth. As before we must carry high the banner of Soviet sports and worthily represent our nation at the international contests and meets.

The leaders of the DOSAAF committees and clubs and the broad aktiv must critically assess the state of sports defense work, draw correct conclusions and fully carry out the demands of the Decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers for developing mass sports. We have all the objective conditions for this. The number of instructors and trainers has risen. Recently the network of DOSAAF training organizations and clubs has been expanded. Many new classrooms and facilities have been built and put into operation. The schools and sports technical clubs possess a modern physical plant and have classrooms for specialized and programmed instruction as well as modern equipment. The publishing of procedural and training literature has been organized as well as the production of visual aids and numerous trainers. All of this makes it possible to further raise the glory of sports aviation, to achieve new successes in the Eighth Summer Spartakiad of the Soviet Peoples and to successfully carry out the obligations assumed in honor of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

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CSO: 1801/208

DOSAAF AND MILITARY COMMISSARIATS

NEED FOR STRICT OBSERVANCE OF FLIGHT RULES STRESSED

Moscow KRYL'YA RODINY in Russian No 4, Apr 82 (signed to press 15 Mar 82) p 17

[Article by special KRYL'YA RODINY correspondent N. Balakin from Khar'kov: "Flight Discipline is the Law"]

[Text] "For a number of years we did not have a good leader. In 1978, Comrade V. P. Nechipas was appointed the chief of the aviation sports club and he was an outstanding pilot, an honest and principled leader. During the years he worked at the club, he gained enormous authority among the sportsmen and personnel, he created excellent training facilities, he normalized the sports and social work and, most importantly, united the collective which the previous leaders had not been able to do.

"However, the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee and the Ukrainian DOSAAF Committee began to receive slanderous statements and anonymous letters about Comrade V. P. Nechipas. They achieved their aim. Nechipas was transferred to a lower position. The sportsmen and club membership expressed their protest over the unjust and un-objective decision. We strongly urge the editors to help us as we feel that under the leadership of Viktor Petrovich Nechipas the air sports club can achieve new successes in the training of sportsmen and in indoctrinating the youth."

(From a letter to the editors from parachutists of the Khar'kov Aviation Sports Club)

The sportsmen and club membership, as we see, had protested. For example, we must admit, it is not a rarity when subordinates protect their chief against an injustice. The authority of a leader is an important factor in the indoctrination of people and in unifying the labor collective. This must be protected in every possible way.

So here we were in Khar'kov. No. 16 Plekhanov Street. Almost every evening young men and women come here from all corners of the city. Here they learn the secrets of aviation science and equipment, they learn to fly a helicopter and parachute. Each year the club's facilities are expanded. New structures have appeared at the airfield, conveniences are being created for the club members and the construction

of a dining room is being completed. The Khar'kov Aviation Sports Club possesses the necessary physical plant which ensures the high quality carrying out of tasks involved in the training of aviation specialists and sportsmen. The plan quotas and socialist obligations of last year were fulfilled and there were 14 shock-workers of communist labor.

Certain successes were also achieved in sports work. The detachment of helicopter pilots, parachutists and model airplane makers grew. Last year alone, the club trained two masters of sports and there are more than a hundred of them. And in all of this a prominent role has been played by the chief of the aviation sports club V. Nechipas. He is still young. He learned to fly in Donetsk. He mastered the Yak-18U and in Vitebsk shifted over to a Mi-1 helicopter. Later on, under special recruitment, he was admitted to the Kirovograd Civil Aviation School for Higher Flight Training where he mastered the An-2 and was then sent to the Donetsk Aviation Enterprise. Later he became a captain. His work was repeatedly commended by letters of thanks, certificates, money prizes and valuable presents. He was awarded the All-Union Insignia "Winner of the 1975 Socialist Competition" and for the successful carrying out of the quotas of the Ninth Five-Year Plan was awarded the medal "For Labor Distinction."

In 1978, V. Nechipas was assigned to the position of the commander of the parachute team of the Khar'kov Aviation Sports Club and 6 months later became the club's chief. Last year, he completed the correspondence division of the Leningrad Order of Lenin Civil Aviation Academy.

I spoke with the club workers. And I heard such replies as: "an excellent pilot," "a good administrator," "demanding on subordinates," "just," "humane" and "honest."

Unfortunately, the leader who is "demanding on subordinates" was unable to critically assess his own personal misdeeds. He had committed flagrant violations of the flight rules.

"You are accused in July of taking off on the wing of an An-2 aircraft while strapped to the strut of the left wing. Was this so?" I asked V. Nechipas.

"It was," he said, "I cannot deny it. What you must realize is that we were planning to make a film on parachute training and we needed a frame which showed the moment the parachutist left the aircraft, but how could he do this? In a helicopter you cannot come close to an aircraft. So I decided to see if we could film the moment the parachutist left the aircraft from the wing...."

That day the inspector of the DOSAAF obkom, Ya. Pratsyuk, who involuntarily witnessed the flagrant violation of flight discipline, forbid V. Nechipas from making further jumps. However, they continued.

The DOSAAF obkom handed down a strict reprimand for V. Nechipas. However, it was not a bitter lesson for him. Not more than 2 months passed and he again, bending the strict laws, committed a flagrant violation of flight rules. This time on a day of demonstration flights he took off for weather reconnaissance with an unauthorized passenger. As was noted in the decree of the Bureau of the Presidium of the Ukrainian DOSAAF Central Committee, the club had violations in keeping the flight documents

and persons not indicated in the planning table had been permitted to make parachute jumps. Other shortcomings were also pointed out. And all of this was because Comrade Nechipas had not been an example for his subordinates in strictly carrying out the flight documents, he violated them and showed a personal lack of discipline.

Let us return to the letter to the editors. Many of its authors have 500 and more jumps and they are all rated athletes. They are well aware that in aviation there are no minor details and that any deviation from the rigid flight laws can lead to lamentable consequences. Why did the parachutists, in knowing about the violations committed by their chief, view the warnings about them to the superior bodies as slander? As they say, the solution was quite simple. In V. Nechipas his numerous positive qualities live side by side with easy-goingness in discipline.

Here is an example. In the summer of last year, the leader of the club's medical station R. Khludeyeva grounded the club member Vladimir Petrov from jumping because of a violation of resting provisions. But V. Nechipas, not respecting the opinion of the medical worker, allowed Petrov to make the jumps. Such, if one might so put it, kindness is not beneficial. The strict observance of the documents regulating flying by all DOSAAF air workers and their unswerving, precise and prompt fulfillment--this is what discipline means. And the person who forgets this, like it or not, commits a misdeed. It is the duty of each chief of a training aviation organization to ensure high discipline, to constantly indoctrinate his subordinates in a spirit of steadfastly carrying out all its requirements, to develop and maintain in them an awareness of service duty and initiative, directing this at increasing flight safety. As they say, as the chief is so are his subordinates as he sets the example and is imitated.

The chief of an aviation sports club not merely organizes the flights and parachute jumps. He bears personal responsibility for the moral climate in the collective and instills in his subordinates high moral and volitional qualities, such as collectivism, comradely mutual aid and mutual respect among people. This can be achieved only by the highest discipline and by personal example.

"Rights, and great rights, are given to leaders," said Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the 26th CPSU Congress, "so that they can fully utilize them. But here each leader must constantly remember his high responsibility, the responsibility to the people who have entrusted them with the leadership as well as to the party and the people."

In this regard, one is surprised by the letter to the editors from the group of sportsmen from the Khar'kov Aviation Sports Club. A firm knowledge and scrupulous fulfillment of the requirements, regulations, instructions and all other documents regulating flights and parachute jumps are a concern of not only the leading flight personnel but also every student and sportsman.

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CSO: 1801/208

MILITARY SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES

ACTIVITIES IN THE V. I. LENIN MILITARY-POLITICAL ACADEMY

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 2, Jan 82 (signed to press 5 Jan 82) pp 46-49

[Article by Doctor of Historical Sciences, Prof, Col L. Bublik: "An Introduction to Scientific Creativity"]

[Text] The construction of a new society, as was pointed out at the 26th CPSU Congress, is simply inconceivable without science. This thesis bears directly on military organizational development and party political work in the Soviet Armed Forces, too. Without a constant scientific search, without the independent creative labor of the commanders and political workers, without analysis and generalization of troop experience it is impossible to train and indoctrinate the men and to forge the souls and hearts of the motherland's defenders.

How can an interest in scientific work be aroused and fostered in the academy's students? How can the necessary research skills be inculcated in them? These questions are constantly at the center of attention for the command, the political section and the faculty of the Military Political Academy imeni V. I. Lenin. In carrying out this task, the academy collective proceeds from the instructions of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev on the necessity of basing the educational process in a VUZ as much as possible "on the independent student activities which are close to research."

Indoctrination through creativity and the involvement of the students in active military-scientific work are one of the basic areas in training the cadres of political workers, military pedagogues and journalists as well as an inseparable component part of the entire training and indoctrinational process.

In the development of student scientific creativity an exceptionally important role is played by the volunteer military-scientific societies of the faculties set up around 30 years ago in the academy. These bring together more than 80 percent of the officers studying in the scientific circles under the chairs of social sciences and military disciplines. In them the students, under the leadership of experienced pedagogues, master Lenin's ideological and theoretical heritage and in light of the decisions of the 26th Party Congress investigate the urgent questions of defending the socialist fatherland and the activities of the CPSU in strengthening the defense capability of the USSR, increasing the combat potential of the Soviet Armed Forces and developing military science.

Quite understandably, the degree of involvement in the activities of the military-scientific circles varies for the students of all the academic years. At the beginning of construction they are acquainted with the tasks and content of military-scientific work, with the thematic specialization of the circles and are gradually introduced to the reviewing of abstracts and articles and the preparing of military-scientific conferences. Then they select the research subject, work out a plan and master the procedures involved in studying the literature and assembling the required material. As their theoretical knowledge broadens and as they master research skills, the activities of the students are intensified and the arsenal of forms of scientific creativity employed by them is enriched.

In the following academic years, the officers prepare reports, abstracts and papers and give them at sessions of the circles and at military-scientific conferences. During this period they pay great attention to the writing of scientific works. By the end of instruction at the academy, this makes it possible for them to acquire rather firm procedural skills in military-scientific research needed for practical activities in the troops, in military schools and in offices of newspapers and magazines.

It is possible to give many examples confirming that the skills of scientific creativity obtained in the academy help the officers in more successfully carrying out practical tasks in the troops. Here is one of them. Capt V. Govorukha studied actively in the military-scientific society. After completing the academy he continued to carry out research. This helped him more successfully perform the duties of the deputy regimental commander for political affairs and later as the chief of the formation's political section. Having enriched his theoretical knowledge with solid practical experience, the officer returned to the academy, this time in a teaching position. Here Col V. Govorukha became a candidate of sciences, a docent and recently defended his doctoral dissertation.

Characteristically, virtually all the instructors of social sciences at the Military-Political Academy imeni V. I. Lenin as well as the other academies and schools, in the past were activists in the military-scientific society. There are also many active participants from it among the present postgraduate students.

The arsenal of forms and methods in military-scientific activity is diverse. Each student is offered an opportunity to select what is to his liking and to disclose his creative abilities to a maximum. The instructors and scientific leaders play the determining role in ensuring a high ideological-theoretical and organizational level in the military-scientific work. This important and responsible area is entrusted to the most experienced and best recognized pedagogues. In studying under their leadership, the students more quickly acquire the skill of scientific creativity. At the same time, among the scientific leaders, one can also encounter recent postgraduate students. Such a combination of experienced and young cadres helps to maintain the succession in military-scientific work, to pass on the advanced experience of its leadership, to broaden the viewpoint and increase the skills of the cadres which supplement the faculty.

Leadership over the research activities of the students is a complex and labor-intensive task requiring dedication and creative zeal. Here much depends upon the personal experience, the erudition, the scientific skills of the pedagogue and on

other factors. Indicative in this regard is the experience of Doctor of Historical Sciences, Prof N. Minayev. The high art of an indoctrinator, a generosity of soul and an attentive attitude toward the students--this is what primarily characterizes his style as a scientific leader and brings him success in work. Capt 1st Rank N. Minayev, like many other of the best scientific leaders, sees his basic task in arousing and developing the students' interest in creativity and in arming them with the Marxist-Leninist methodology of analyzing the urgent problems of military and political training and military indoctrination.

The scientific circles under the chairs of party political work, military-pedagogics and psychology are popular with the students. This is explained by the practical focus of the circles' concerns and by the close tie between the studied problems and the life of the troops. In being guided by the instructions of V. I. Lenin that "no school, no university is worth anything if there is no practical ability" (PSS [Complete Collected Works], Vol 42, p 77), the instructors of these chairs focus the students' attention on studying advanced procedures and methods for indoctrinating the personnel in high political vigilance, increasing the combat readiness of the units and ships, strengthening military discipline and improving the indoctrinational role of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Thus, the members in the military pedagogics and psychology circle, under the leadership of Docent, Col D. Poznanskiy, in the troops carried out a study of the questions of forming and uniting small troop collectives. The results of their scientific work have been introduced into the training and indoctrinational practices of the academy and the troops. The students of the sociology circle assembled interesting material on the situation in military patriotic propaganda among inductee youth in a number of RSFSR oblasts and this material has been used in preparing a monograph on this subject. The involving of the best trained students, that is, the members of the military scientific society, in conducting research under the plans of the chairs has also produced tangible results.

The results of the scientific creativity of the students at the end of each academic year are summed up at the military-scientific conferences of the faculties. The subjects of the conferences are devoted to the most important and timely problems in party-political work and the training and indoctrination of the personnel and to the contents, procedures and organization of the educational and indoctrinational process in the military schools. For example, in recent years the military-scientific conferences have discussed the following problems: "The Leninist Style of Work and Its Embodiment in the Activities of the Political Bodies and Party-Political Apparatus of a Regiment (Ship)," "The USSR Constitution on the Socialist State of All the People," "The Activities of Political Bodies and Party Organizations in Increasing the Effectiveness of Political Indoctrination in Light of the Requirements of the Decree of the CPSU Central Committee of 26 April 1979" and others.

Each conference is preceded by extensive preparatory work. A plan of it is compiled, the subjects of the reports, co-reports and scientific papers are determined, the speakers are selected and they are helped in their preparations.

Participating in and speaking at the conferences giving interesting papers are the chief of the academy, his deputies, the chief of the political section, representatives from the political directorates of the Armed Services, the political bodies of

the field forces and formations, the chiefs of chairs, instructors and officers from the scientific research section. Each year over 100 reports and papers are given at the conferences. All of this helps them to be held, as a rule, on a high ideological and theoretical level and to be marked by a professional focus. The conference materials are then drawn up in the form of individual collections which are employed in the educational and indoctrinational process and in the military-scientific activities of the students.

Of course, this does not mean that there are no shortcomings in the content and holding of the conferences. Probably the main one is the inability of individual comrades to closely link the theoretical provisions of the reports and speeches with the life of the troops and with the tasks of military and political training. Not all the students have mastered the art of an oral presentation. Equipment and visual aids are not always skillfully employed by them. These and other shortcomings are analyzed in summing up the results of the conferences and attention is drawn to them at sessions of the scientific circles.

At present preparations have started at the chairs and faculties for a student military-scientific conference on the subject "Party-Political Work in the Units and Formations to Strengthen the Combat Potential of the Soviet Armed Forces on the Basis of the Decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress."

One of the most effective forms of student military-scientific creativity is student involvement in the biennial all-Union competition of student works on social sciences and the history of the Komsomol and the international youth movement. In addition, as part of the annual all-Union competition for natural, scientific and humanity sciences, there is also an all-Army competition for the problems of party-political work. Each year more than 600 projects are prepared for these competitions by the members of the academy's military scientific society. After careful selection, the best of them are forwarded to the outside rounds of the competitions. Many works have been presented with medals, diplomas and certificates of the Komsomol Central Committee, the USSR Minister of Defense and the USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education.

Thus, at one of the competitions, a high grade was received by the research of Capt A. Boykin on "Party-Political Work in Indoctrinating Soviet Troops in the Legacy of V. I. Lenin." Inherent to this work were a scientific analysis of Lenin's military-theoretical heritage and a close link with the life of the troops and with the practice of party-political work. The contest commission commented on the high research abilities of the author and his capacity to study and generalize troop experience, to draw correct scientific conclusions and make recommendations on further improving troop training and indoctrination. Among the other authors who were awarded competition prizes we must mention the students Capt 3d Rank V. Musatyan and Capt A. Savinkin, N. Nikitin and V. Borisov.

At present, the members of the faculty military-scientific societies are participating in the Ninth All-Union Contest for Student Works on Social Sciences.

The command and the political section are constantly concerned with improving the scientific creativity of the students and propagandizing advanced experience. These questions are regularly discussed at the academy council and in the party organizations. Each year, an order of the academy's chief is issued and this sums up and

commends the students and instructors who have achieved high results in military-scientific work. Their experience is popularized in the wall press and in the academy's newspaper LENINETS and is widely employed in the interests of further improving the activities of the military-scientific societies. Much in this area is also being done on the chairs, faculties and the scientific research section.

The efforts spent to involve the students in military-scientific work have brought the desired results. An absolute majority of the academy graduates who were former activists in the military-scientific society have proven themselves well in practical work in the troops and military schools. The skills of scientific creativity help them to more successfully carry out the tasks of military and political training, instruction and indoctrination of the personnel. Many of the academy graduates combine military service with active involvement in working out urgent problems of social sciences and party-political work as well as with the preparing of candidate and doctoral dissertations.

The scientific and pedagogical collective of the academy, in being guided by the decisions of the 26th Party Congress, is doing everything to improve the content, forms and methods of student scientific creativity and to ensure high quality training of political workers for the Soviet Armed Forces.

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